### England deny Boks a place in history

**Robert Armstrong** at Twickenham

T WAS a long time in the melting pot but England's first victory over a major southern hemisphere side since the 1995 World Cup was as sweet and satisfying as they come. Lawrence Dallaglio's battling players could not have chosen a more auspicious occasion on which to confound their critics: stopping the world champions from setting a new Test record of 18 consecutive wins and in doing so reasserting their own power and pride of performance.

Never mind that this was one of the most error-ridden Tests in recent memory. England dogged it out and seized their scoring chances with a cold-eyed oppor-tunism that has been missing this year. Significantly, two of last year's conquering Lions, Jeremy Guscott and Matt Dawson, monopolised the unconfined.

True to form, England put their fans on the rack several times, back- tations made and historic wins cre- tably in the case of the fly-half Mike badly needed the injection of confipedalling furiously when kicks were | ated. England, though, deserved to | Catt, who curbed his carelessness charged down by the Springboks | see off the Springboks because | and played probably his most com- | distinguished scalp. When asked and contriving to give away naive | their hunger was greater, their tacpenalties that might have proved tics sharper and their organisation

When there was still time to save the match, South Africa's full-back | Clive Woodward takes England into | where England showed the patience Percy Montgomery missed a simple | next year's World Cup. Searching | needed to continue working the ball | with the structure of our game than short-range penalty and, as the questions had been asked of his through successive phases. The the ability of the players," he said. seconds ticked away, Stefan stewardship, particularly over team support runners achieved a prodi- returning to a familiar source of Terblanche was denied a clear run | selection that seemed arbitrary at | gious workrate that meant the ball to the posts only when Dan Luger | times. However, his insistence on | carrier was rarely overwhelmed. tipped down Andre Snyman's pass. | unflinching honesty over individual On such slender margins are repu- | shortcomings finally bore fruit, no- | prove a watershed for England, who

8 State one's in, given choice of

9 Big stars in 8 noticed high-flyer

Eastern Carlobean is most hard

12 Person ineffectual with naughty

13 See me and son returning with

pride, showing awards? (10)

15 Notable examples of past angry

10 On back roads, trained learner

North or South? (8)

taking a dive (6)

to swallow (8)

driver (6)

Cryptic crossword by Fawley

20 scoring and their joy at the end was Mission accomplished . . . Cockerill celebrates after England's defeat of South Africa PHOTO TOM JENKINS

ultimately more durable.

16 Fight with queue where

18 Not the first antique sate

documents are kept? (3,4)

arranged in succession (10)

Par for the course! (4)

20 Feel the same as I refuse to

makes one cross (6)

23 Misbehaves, demanding drink

24 Vacuum I'll want repairing, not

after dramatic scenes? (4,2)

about to offer deposit (8)

11 Source of treasure found around | 22 Process of choice - it usually

19 Fool rejecting love reciprocated?

accept incomplete argument (8)

Woodward's commitment to a version of total rugby was also seen | northern and southern hemisphere Victory will ensure that the coach | to positive effect, especially in attack | rugby, Woodward hedged his bets. | day four shots behind West-

Beating the Springboks may

absolutely no doubt we have the players with the talent to succeed." On the evidence of their Tests against South Africa and Australia. who won by one point, England have forwards such as Dallaglio, Martin Johnson, Tim Rodber and Richard Cockerill who can stand toe | when Woods missed the final to toe with any pack in the world. However, the jury is still out on the backs who, Guscott and Dawson Juries permitting, it would help in needing to hole a delicate chip developing greater cohesion if men such as Luger, Catt and the fullback Nick Beal, who came good

whether he believed a substantial

gap in quality remained between

complaint. "I don't think we'd lose

many games if we operated on a

level playing field; man for man we

can achieve what they do. I've

after a dodgy start, were given extended runs. For the moment England have shrugged off their reputation as dangerous floaters who fail to deliver. Their supporters can wind back the video tape and re-run the try of their dreams; a high crosskick by Catt finds Luger leaping above Terblanche to lay off the ball to Guscott who glides around a despairing defence to put England

tackle that allowed the left-wing Pleter Rossouw to put the Springboks in front. Fast forward to a final quarter of it went but you can't have the unrelenting tension and a denouement that defled the odds. Dawson. with the easy grace of a Michael • Greg Chalmers, 25th in Lynagh, hammered home two Europe this season, came. penalty goals for ruck offences from closest to beating par over the 30 and 40 metres. Then England Royal Adelaide course and duly hung through five minutes of won the Australian Open last stoppage time for a victory that Sunday. His level-par total of Dawson described as "right up | 288 was good enough to beat

1 Possible outcome of 22, after retirement, carrying conviction 2 One producing copy of society's

agenda? (6.9) 3 Dolly's mini is outrageous — I'll look for the catch! (5,3-2) 4 Pub rules for 20ing stock? (3,4) 5 Woodcutter perhaps had nolsy

6 One may have to carefully avoid such a solecism (5, 10) 7 Brief reference to someone previously cited - him or her? (8,7) 14 Hurry up with air not previously

recorded, adding almost half of 17 Une in play I'd changed that's floated across the pond (4,3) 21 Like a little smoke? Don't start that — it's a kids' game! (1-3)

Last week's solution

E F K R C J EXCLAIMERELAYED PLATEN IDOLISED AND ASSEL NEB INGRATITUDE PIANOFORTE REAL SADDLEUPOUNCES COASTAL LIBERLA R T N S D A

Golf Price takes the rich prize

Martin Gillingham In Sun City

EE WESTWOOD's dream o rounding off a remarkable year by winning the Millon Dollar Challenge was shattered here last Sunday when he faded to a share of fourth place behind the winner, Nick Price.

It was Price's third victory at the tournament since 1993 when he set a record score of 264, 24 under par, His 72-hole total this time was nine shots worse than that. But this was a victory made sweeter by his triumph in an exhausting suddendeath play-off against the world No 1 Tiger Woods, which came to an end when Price holed out for a birdie from nine feet at the fifth extra hole.

Twice in the play-off Woods missed putts from less than 20 feet, uphill and with a gentle right-to-left break, that would have sealed it. "In order to beat a calibre player like Nick you have to make those putts, and dence that only comes with taking a didn't," Woods said.

Three hours earlier, Price had seemed to be coasting to victory. Despite having started the final "If there is a gulf it has more to do wood, a run of six straight into a three-shot lead. But almost immediately the lead was reduced to two when a poor drive cost Price a bogey at the

Price and Woods were paired up for the final day and when they stood together on the 17th tee the American knew he would probably have to finish birdlebirdie to take it into a play-off. On the 17th, Woods made a birdie three to Price's four but green to the right, the game

Price two putted for his par four on the 18th leaving Woods from seven yards to tie, "I hit it right on the line I wanted to, Wood said. "It was just a ques tion of whether or not it had enough pace." Thankfully for Woods it did.

"Tiger has the knack of doing the big thing at the right time, Price said. "I wasn't surprised in the least when he chipped in." Westwood's one-over-par 73 was the worst score of the day by any of the 12-man field.

The compensation for Westwood was still fairly subback on terms. Beal, for his part, stantial. His share of the fourth will prefer to forget the early missed place with Mark O'Meara, who had also led during the final round, was \$150,000. "I'm a bit disappointed with the way luck all the time," Westwood

there with the Lions winning in Stuart Appleby and Peter Senio South Africa". No one is going to by one shot, with Nick Faldo. argue the point with the toast of three adrift and joint fourth Chalmers won \$120,000.

Les Garres

McGuardian

wi 159. No 25 Week ending December 20, 1998



Clinton's attempt to save the Middle East peace accord is overshadowed by the looming prospect of impeachment

### Palestinians hail president's visit

Julian Borger in Gaza

Monday, he was already seen on second Israeli handover of occupied every corner of the Gaza Strip West Bank land. standing alongside a joyful Yasser Arafat, under the words "We have a dream — Free Palestine".

The double portrait was everywhere, bedecked with US and Palestinian flags. In truth the image was a computer-generated fake, which had borrowed a picture of Mr Clinton giving a thumbs up from an old eleclion campaign, but such details mattered little to the waiting crowds.

The president's arrival on this sliver of Mediterranean coastline was a spark that would one day they loved him for it. When the crucial moment came

for the Palestinian National Council 16 affirm its renunciation of violence against Israel - the main diplomatic prize Mr Clinton had come for - even hardened veterans of the long guerrilla war vied with each other to raise their hands highest. Mr Clinton seized the moment.

The council, he said, had sent "a powerful message, not to the governwill touch people on the streets there. You will reach their hearts there."

That's not enough. There have to a symphony of solidarity.

the Israel-Gaza border. Afterwards, chance to determine their own des checked, and all police except mem friendship."

Mr Clinton declared that the Wye River agreement was back on track. However, Mr Clinton and Mr Netan yahu, speaking separately, gave no sign that Israel would honour the agreed December 18 deadline for a

Mr Netanyahu declared that he would not alter his terms for releasing Palestinian political prisoners, an issue that has triggered violent protests across the West Bank.

Even if Mr Clinton could not take home a clearcut foreign policy victory from his three-day Middle East trip, he will sayour the reception he received in Gaza.

The Palestinian assembly gave him a standing ovation of an intensity that even the Democrats find it hard to muster these days. The president bring a Palestinian state to life, and | may be sapped by the threat of impeachment back home, but abroad he can still generate enough electricity to light up an emerging nation.

"We will look back at today in the years to come and this is what we are going to remember — that President Clinton came and it was the beginning," said Aiman Hineida, aged 33, an electrician who waited since early morning on the presi-

Mr Arafat is not expected to dement, but to the people of Israel. You | clare a Palestinian state for five | right to a state. months, and it is unlikely Washingby recognising the new entity. But step. I welcome it." But he added: for the Palestinians he orchestrated

Later speeches were Clintonian



Yasser Arafat thanks Bill Clinton at Monday's alstoric meeting of the Palestinian National Council in Gaza PHOTOGRAPH, GARY HERSHORN

luesday at the Erez Crossing on the Palestinian people "now have a ling the cavalcade route was the start of a new Palestinian-US

tiny on their own land", but stopped | bers of Mr Arafat's personal security well short of endorsing a Palestinian | unit were deprived of their weapons. In the crowd a 22-year-old veteran The Palestinian leadership was of street battles with Israeli soldiers. ton will risk its relations with Israel | not in a mood to quibble. Its two | Hazim Said, admitted to burning US objectives had been to make sure | flags by the dozen during the occuone of Mr Clinton's greatest talents | the president set foot on Palestinian | pation. On Monday he warily emthe decision: "It is a very important is his mastery of mood music, and territory and that he survived the braced the new era. "Yes, I burned day. To that end, a stifling security | flags before, but that was when blanket was spread over Gaza City. America was always supporting the | chance to vote their conscience." No private cars were allowed in the | Israelis," he said. "This is different. The three leaders met early on masterpieces. The president said city centre, every window overlook. We have been given respect. I feel

### Republicans slam door on Clinton

Martin Kettle In Washington

🗂 II.l. Cliuton's Republican opponents dismayed Demograts and popular opinion - by refusing to allow a censure motion against the president to be discussed at the House of Representatives' impeachment debate this week.

Republican leaders made it clear that they intend to block any possibility of a censure vote at Thursday's debate, and to force party waverers to declare themselves in a vote on the four impeachment articles adopted by the House judiciary

By denying a compromise option, they believe that enough of their 228-207 majority will now be compelled to vote to send Mr Clinton to trial in the Senate next year. Many of the Republican waverers in Congress might have been happy to support a vote on censure, an outcome backed by public opinion.

A poll for ABC News showed 61 per cent backing censure, with support distributed among voters of all parties. On impeachment, the poll showed 38 per cent support and 60 per cent opposition, with opinion divided along party lines.

Vice-president Al Gore attacked Republicans for defying the "wisdom of the American people". He said: "I believe it's very unfortunate that the leadership of the House of Representatives has made a decision to reject compromise and force give the members of Congress a

Washington Diary, page 6 Comment, page 12 Washington Post, page 15.

### Pinochet ruling is a win for human rights

THE British Home Secretary has taken the only decision on the Pinochet case that combines justice with moral vision. The general's evil demon has hing for far too long over the politics of Chile. For 12 days it seemed to be hanging over Jack Straw, as though he were a child who dared not enter a dark

This was the minister who had said at the start of the case that he would allow the law to take its course. Yet when the law lords lit his way with their resplendent decision that General Pinochet had no immunity against the charges of torture, hostage-Making and conspiracy to murder, giving immediate authorisation

for the general's extradition to Spain to proceed, he asked for more time. The only conceivable grounds for reflection might have been convincing proof that the general was terminally ill, but any pressure for compassion on that score was convincingly shot away by the doctors at the private hospital in London where he had stayed. They made it clear he was in normal health for a man of his age. That should have been the end of the story, but the Home Secretary still took another week to decide.

During his deliberations, the Home Secretary presumably looked into the abyss and realised what a mockery he would have made of the judicial breakthrough the law lords had made if he let the general escape. Their judgment was hailed around the world as a major contribution to lifetime seat in the senate.

the globalisation of higher standards for human rights. It put tyrants on notice that they will not be safe outside their own countries. Mr Straw's acceptance of the

new legal realities will also help

the democratic process in Chile, The general's supporters have tried to convey the impression that any refusal to send him back to Chile would upset the country's political balance. But closer scrutiny of Chilean politice has shown the faisity of these arguments. Polls show that 57 per cent of Chileans want the general tried. The country's politicisms have been split on the Pinochet issue for many months. He only narrowly escaped impeachment in April, when Chile's congress voted by 62 to 52 not to remove him from his

Far from reversing Chile's democratisation, the general's arrest in London has helped to strengthen the hands of Chile's liberals. The Chilean government itself was forced to change its line. After initially insisting on the general's inimunity, it softened its argument to one of sovereignty. When the foreign minister visited Britain earlier this month, he no longer argued that the general should go free but that he should stand trial in Chilean rather than foreign courts.

As the country prepares for presidential elections next year the general's departure can only lead to a more open campaign. Outside Chile, the message is clear. International law will no longer forgive those who use the machinery of government to perform the grossest violations of human rights.

Pinochet In court, page 9 Analysis, page 13

Rape defined as war crime Kurdish rebel

rejects violence Europe dogged by

north-south divide IRA refuses to

lay down arms

Millennium bug will bite hard

Neitherlands G 6 Denmark DK17 Finland FM 10 Portugal France Saudi Arabia SR 6.50 Germany DM 4.60 Greece DR 500 HUF 500 Sweden SK 19 Hungary L 3,600

Switzerland SF 3.80

Twickenham. 'debate (7) Guardian Publications Ltd., 1998. Published by Guardian Publications Ltd., 164 Deansgate; Manchester, M60 2RR, and printed by WCP Commercial Printing, Leek. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and mailing officest Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

surprise to the legal community (Pinochet law lord linked to well known, however, is his judicial sonal views to influence his legal rights. Indeed we are reminded by integrity in the sense that he does not allow his personal views to intrude into his judgments.

This is easily demonstrated. In mas, Hoffmann was recently sitting in the Privy Council when, in an important test case, this appeal was dismissed. The case was about the death penalty and was decided by been hanged three to two. Hoffmann was with the | Owen Davies, majority. Amnesty is against the death penalty in all circumstances, and the decision would have gone the other way if Hoffmann had voted to allow the appeal.

The fact is that Hoffmann was on tors have resorted to attacking a 1 Jiang Zemin.

WOUR revelation of Lord Hoff- messenger rather than attempting mann's involvement in promot- to demonstrate any legal fault in the ing human rights comes as no legal analysis relating to his sup-

It would indeed be cause for criti-Amnesty, December 13). Equally | clsm for a judge to allow his perdecisions. But it would also be a sad day if judges were prevented from carrying out a role in legal education and the advancement of human Trevor Pennerman Fisher v Baha- | rights. In case I am accused of partisanship, I was counsel for Amnesty in the Lords in the case of Pinochet. I was also counsel for poor Trevor Pennerman Fisher, who has since

the panel of judges for Pinochet by | making his decision on the immuaccident: originally it was to hear a | nity or otherwise of Pinochet from | decades of support for the Soviet rate opinion, but agreed with the to hide. December 6). In looking at judgments of two other judges. In other torturers, however, who this light, the only story worth re- | might be affected by such a deciporting is that Pinochet's spin doc- sion he included Castro, Arafat and

LIUGO YOUNG did an excellent I job in drawing out the issues that now confront Jack Straw in

among Chile's movers and shakers won't consolidate democracy. Much more was done for democracy in neighbouring Argentina by humiliating its military machine than by respecting its "sensitivities". Here's a chance to humiliate Chile's criminal army without firing a shot. Dion Giles,

bility for torture and human rights

subject of unfavourable attention

Amnesty International this year that

the US remains a significant violator

of it's own citizens' rights. Let's not

and forget the organ-grinder.

Balmain, NSW, Australia

outside his safe haven.

Les MacDonald

confine ourselves to the monkeys

massive abuses of human

Fremantle, Western Australia

### Quebec warms towards Canada

CTEVEN PEARLSTEIN (Sepa- | (Dr) Peter Sims, Oratists win again in Quebec, December 6) declares that the Parti Québecois' election win on November 30 showed that "the Frenchspeaking province continued to drift toward a final confrontation with the

rest of Canada". Having observed Canadian political and social trends for nearly 45 years, I can report that Canadians of backgrounds see the election as a very strong indicator that the "final confrontation" is dormant.

Consider: The Parti Québecois government now has a slim but workable majority. It won that maiority after a campaign characterised by complete ambivalence on the question of separation, and a commitment to sound management

and good social policy. The voters made it clear that not reduced to a smaller minority than it Parti Québecois does not have the support of a majority of the population; so it better mind its P's and Q's (to say nothing of its PQ.)

another referendum is now out of the question, and that good relations with the other provinces are a priority. Editorialists across the country observe with near-unanimity that stability in Quebec is stronger than it has been for a long time. Patrick Watson,

`oronto. Canada

TEVEN PEARLSTEIN (Quebec cember 6) reflects typical American to this shameful discrimination. parochialism. In most of Canada, as LI Woolf, in Quebec, the health system, col- | Vancouver, BC, Canada

He failed to mention those with the greatest responsibility of all, however. A long line of American public goods, and are funded acpresidents hold vicarious responsi- cordingly

Indeed, as far as I can see, this is abuses in all those countries | the case for health, education, and unlucky enough to have been the | day-care in most advanced democracies. The American obsession with from US foreign policy. Pinochet, | free markets and the gross inequali-Saddam and Diem were all puppers | ties they promote is the exception of US foreign policy while carrying | rather than the rule. (Dr) Lawrin Armstrong.

### Nicotine brings necessary relief

NE reads again about the problems of cigarette-based disease **ERIC HOBSBAWM** (December 13) says there is a view among in other countries, and particularly Chile's left that democracy would be the export of Western diseases to endangered by Pinochet being tried China (Selling death to the Chinese, November 29). There is a feeling of risks, and accepted them, this shu However, on the democracy-dic- despair and anger at the millions of avoidable deaths in the pipeline. tatorship or justice-injustice scale

the left has a long history of equivo-And yet . . . cigarettes are the currency of war, of prison, and of sure the safe working conditions cation, as demonstrated by the different appeal, but Pinochet edged international justice (Pinochet ver- dictatorship against its democratic the last 50 years the sufferings of business in certain circumstances it out of the way. He gave no sepa- dict leaves Jack Straw with nowhere | critics. Backroom "left-right" deals | the people of China have been regimes, persecuted by armed thugs, their very humanity ignored Life has been nasty, brutish, often short and with very little hope. Perhaps cigarettes helped people to cope a little better and for a little | deforestation, Rising global temper longer, in a harsh world a little com- ature is related to excess carbon fort now is well worth trading | dioxide resulting from the burning against disease in a distant future.

which may never be obtained. The trick then is not to rail against the tobacco companies but to encourage a safer form of nicotine delivery which enjoys the social cachet and convenience of the ciga-

### Expats get a raw deal on pensions

IT HAS always been intended that the British state retirement pension should be adjusted periodically for changes in the cost of living. Without this indexing provision our compulsory National Insurance contributions would have been substan-

Pensions paid to retired contribu tors living in Britain are, very properly, adjusted annually for changes

in the consumer price index. However, 430,000 retired British expatriates who now live in 48 British Commonwealth countries only is the separatist constituency | have their UK state retirement pension frozen, ie, paid without an an-

Yet before emigrating from KCAngus, Britain they paid the same National The re-elected Premier, still ambi- Insurance contributions as every valent on separation, declares that | other worker for most of their working lives. They are being denied

what they paid for. In contrast, retired British expatriates living in the United States or European countries have their UK state pension adjusted for inflation as if they were still in Britain. It is worth noting that Canadlan retirees, for example, living and paying taxes in Britain, have their Canadian pensloned indexed like those still in Canada. The British governmen Opts for State Capitalism, De- should reciprocate and put an end

GUARDIAN WEEKL' necember 20 1998

### Gen Suharto guizzed about nis 'billions'

John Aglionby in Jakarta

THE disgraced Indonesian dictafor General Suharto was offially questioned for the first time ast week about the huge fortune he is alleged to have amassed during his 32 years in power. He was forced to step down following riots and political chaos in May. Accompanied by eight lawyers, the

77-year-old former president was inerrogated by three deputy attorneygenerals for more than four hours at the high prosecutor's office, a lastminute change of venue to wrongfoot hundreds of students camped 1 the attorney-general's office.

"I gave them all the information they wanted," a relaxed-looking Gen Saharto said in a brief statement before leaving in a heavily guarded | client was questioned specifically | and sell Korean-made cars, under |

quests of the attorney-general, as no | charitable foundations he chaired, | import duty. one is above the law. However, | and the "national car" project. every civilian has the right to be proteded by the law," he added - a | Suharto used the foundations as | lasted about 18 months until the clear reference to the growing cam- fronts to channel billions of dollars | World Trade Organisation ruled that paign for him to be tried for political to himself, his family and cronies. | it violated international law, cost the and economic crimes.

for the first time as a war

Bosnian Croat former paramilitary | her ordeal.

crime by the United Nations

Mohammed Assegaf, head of | Gen Suharto's youngest son, |

Croat jailed for new war crime of rape

NACT of rape was classified and his detention since then will be of coercion taking place in the Misetic, claimed he was "truly

Jokers, a special unit of paramilitary | ture, to obtain information or a con-

It is widely believed that Gen The "national car" scheme allowed | country at least \$1.55 billion.

indictment in December last year,

Rights — as the court sentenced a having a flawed memory because of torture if he . . . participates in an

vagina if she did not tell the truth.

It was said that while Furundzija

interrogated A and another pris-

In its statement, the court said

counted towards his sentence.

tribunal in the Hague last week — the testimony of the victim, identi-

the 50th anniversary of the UN's field in court as Witness A, whom

Universal Declaration of Human his defence lawyers accused of

Gen Suharto's legal team, said his | Hutomo Mandala Putra, to import about the use of hundreds of mil- an Indonesian marque, without "I am always ready to meet the re- lions of dollars belonging to seven paying the standard sales and

Suharto's car is tightly guarded outside the prosecutors office in Jakarta PHOTO: KENVL JUFFIL

Andi Ghalib, said the scheme, which

by Nato troops acting on a sealed | it accepted Witness A's testimony. | torture and eight years concur-

The case against him centred on as an organ of the state or any other appeal. "Every piece of evidence

responsible as a co-perpetrator of

integral part and partakes of the

prohibited purpose behind the tor-

third to be handed down by the tri-

bunal arising out of the Bosnian war,

it was the first to focus exclusively

on an act of rape. Other defendants

have been charged with rapes, but

In a 15-minute judgment the

putable that rape and other serious

sexual assaults in situations of

as part of other war crimes.

ity of the percetrators."

authority-wielding entity.

It added: "An accused

The court defined torture as an act | rently for rupe. His lawyer, Luka

presence of a public official acting | shocked" by the verdict and would

Although the judgment is the serving his sentence in Norway. It

said: "The chamber finds it indis- | rape will be dealt with seriously. In-

Mr Assegal said that Gen capacity as being in a position to

The general, who has been exonerated by two unofficial investigations in the past four months, denies embezzling money or property.

contradicted the testimony of the

defendants had got off more lightly.

Erdemovic, also a Bosnian Croat

was found guilty last March and is

is likely that Furundzija will be im-

prisoned there or in Italy or Finland.

said: "It is fitting that the judgment

sary of the Declaration of Human

Rights. It is an important decision

because it demonstrates that acts of

ternational humanitarian law is fully

equipped to assert that persons

have the right to respect for their

physical integrity, even in times o

was delivered on the 50th anniver

In a statement the prosecution

main witness," he said.

Suharto had not been charged with anything. "I would like to stress that support a claim for statehood Mr Suharto was not questioned as a Last week the attorney-general, clarify matters. He was not even placed under house arrest."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS 3

### The Week

HE World Bank offered \$1 bil-I lion in concessional interestfree loans to Honduras and Nicaragua to help the them repair the damage caused by Hurricane Mitch. But a separate meeting of creditor governments in Paris refused to consider an immediate write-off of the countries' foreign debt.

Washington Post, page 1

N WEAPONS inspectors in Iraq were refused entry to the ruling Ba'ath party's Baghdad offices in a direct challenge to their authority. Most inspectors have left the capital after a week of surprise visits to test Iraq's compliance with UN

A MAJORITY of voters in of the United States in a referensuspect or a witness but in his dum. Washington Post, page 16

> HE Indian government in troduced controversial legislation that proposes setting uside a third of the scats in parliament and the state legislatures for women. Film attacked, page 24

OHNNY CHUNG, a fundraiser who gave nearly \$30,000 in illegal contributions to the Democratic party in the US, was sentenced to five years' probation after pleading for "a second chance".

SWITZERLAND elected its first female and first Jewish Mr Misetic claimed that other president, less than 30 years adding: "Drazen Erdemovic admitafter Swiss women won the right ted killing 72 people and got five to vote. Ruth Dreifuse will hold years. Clearly, there are questions | the post for a year.

> A LGERIAN authorities have discovered 35 bodies in an orchard on the outskirts of Algiers and suspect they were killed by Islamic militants.

A NGOLAN government forces clashed with the rebel group Units in heavy fighting near the strategic town of Culto

BI FILES on Frank Sinatra. released under US freedom of information law, revealed that the singer lived a double life as an aspiring national hero and a criminal money amuggler.

### 131 killed in Kosovo battle

Chris Bird in Belgrade

Worst clash between Yugoslav soldiers and ethnic Albanians sepa-Patists since the October truce. Border troops also wounded fonlation at Kuslin, just inside the

province's border with Albania. The rebels were trying to smug-Ale arms into Kosovo from Albania and wore the insignia of the Kosovo liberation Army. (KLA), according lothe Serb-run Media Centre.

The incident happened on the eve Males envoy, Richard Holbrooke. had hoped to persuade the strong group of monitors.

sevic, to allow French-led Nato HIRTY-ONE ethnic Albanians troops to protect the international died in Kosovo on Monday in | monitors sent to verify the ceasefire agreed in Belgrade on October 12,

A spokeswoman for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which is deploying People during a pre-dawn conthe unarmed international monitors in Kosovo, confirmed the deaths. One of the dead was a woman.

The security forces also took nine people prisoner, two of them were

Although dozens of people have. fire, the sudden upsurge in blood-

### EU bans farm drugs

Furundzija will serve 10 years for armed conflict."

be on a legal collision course | Brussels to discuss the ban, which with pharmaceutical companies this | could cost the chemicals industry week as ministers approved a ban on | up to \$840 million a year. Twelve El four of the eight antibiotics used as growth promoters in animal feed, writes Stephen Bates in Brussels.

The United States multinational Pfizer had already threatened legal action if its product Virginiamycin were banned. The industry insisted that there were no serious threats to

A statement issued from Pfizer's New York headquarters claimed: been killed since the October cease. The commission has not followed. Sales a visit to Kosovo by the United, shed underlines the importance of regarded scientific analysis and has providing protection for the 2,000- taken quotations from expert reports out of context."

Yugoslav president, Slobodan Milo- HE European Union appeared to Agriculture ministers met in agriculture ministers endorsed the European Commission ban, which will be phased in over six months. with the antibiotics outlawed on

consumer health grounds. The eight antibiotics used in feedstuffs together represent 15 per cent of the total sold worldwide each year. They are used in animal feed to promote rapid growth and disease resistance.

But the Commission believes that established procedures, has distraces of the antibiotics passed on through the food chain could increase human resistance to medicines containing the drugs.

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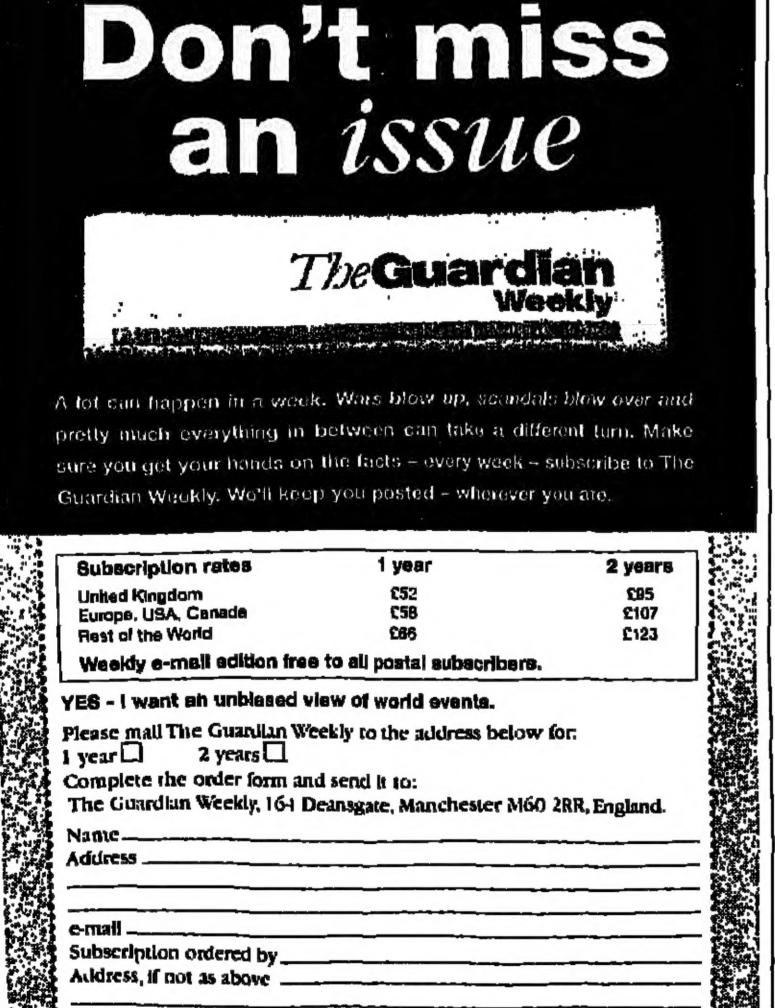
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Weekly Knows 110 boundaries

∧ TTHE service to mark the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I was pleased to see a large banner in front of Westminster Abbey proclaiming Article One: "The right to equalityall human beings are born free a equal in dignity and rights." Then we were made to stand in deferential silence as senior members of establishment filed past, and at the end we sang God Save the Queen. Rebecca Hickman, High Wycombe, Bucks

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

THE appalling deaths of for I hostage telecom workers Chechenia (December 13) rais While the company which e argue that the employees knew th ply will not do. Such "blame the vic tim" arguments avoid the primary responsibility of management to cawhatever the profit incentives.

China and India is attributed to of fossil tuels. Growing trees absorb carbon dioxide.

University of Glasgow

Isn't there the germ of an idea here? A penny or two tax on fossil fuel in industrialised countries could go a long way towards reforestation in developing areas.

Howard Goldfine. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

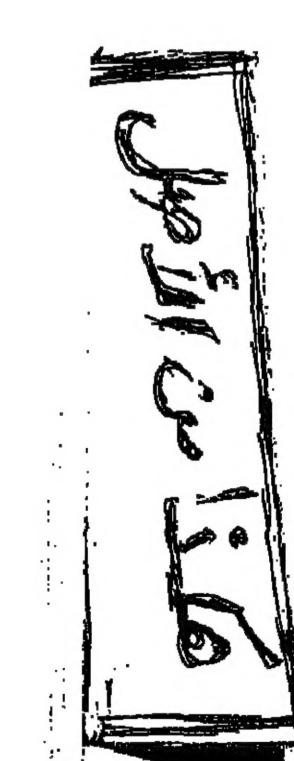
commander to 10 years' imprison-/ //TH reference to John Ryle's V V article (The trouble with Amer-Anto Furundzija, now aged 29 "police", had arrested A and that fession, to punish or intimidate, icans, October 18), I recall a crossand once leader of a gang called the she was interrogated in Furundzija's humiliate, coerce or discriminate cultural communications class at the okers, was sentenced after being presence. As A was questioned, the School For International Training. ound guilty on two counts, as a co- other soldier present had threat-Brattleboro, Vermont, where expert erpetrator of torture in violation of ened to insert a knife into her regularly referred to American citihe laws or customs of war, and of zens as US Americans, pronounce alding and abetting outrages upon YOU-ESS-Americans. This seemed to be the agreed and preferred term He was found to have stood by oner, known as Victim B, they were among US experts in this field. and watched while another para- beaten on the soles of their feet with

Denise Barstow-Girel, military beat and raped a female a baton. Furundzija did not interdetainee during an interrogation in vene when A was forced to have oral presiding judge, Florence Mumba, Evbens, France 1993. His sentence was double the and vaginal sex with the soldier. term demanded by the prosecutors. \ | AME and shame the politicians Furundzija led the Jokers during expert evidence showed that even the Bosnian war, operating from when suffering from post-traumatic armed conflict entail criminal liabilheadquarters in a bungalow in stress disorder, a witness may still Nadioci, near Vitez. He was arrested be accounted reliable. It added that

V Name and shame the teachers. Name and shame the doctors. Is it time to bring back the stocks? (Dr) Michael Wilson.

Kemptville, Ontario, Canada

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75 Farringdon Road, London ECIM 3HQ. Fax: 44-171-242-0985 (UK: 0171-242 0985): e-mail: weekly@guardlan.co.uk-Subscription, change of address and e-mail inquirles to: gwsubs@guardian.co.uk



Thai soldiers search for victims of a plane crash at Surat Thani last week. Fifty passengers survived and 82 died when the Thai Airways Airbus crashed while trying to land in a rainstorm PHOTO. DARREN WHITESIDE

### Mystery killers target liberal writers in Iran

**Genelve Abdo in Tehran** and agencies

▲ BOUT 2,000 Iranian writers and Their supporters gathered on Tuesday to bury poet Mohammid Mokhtari, amid word that the authorities had made arrests in the string of mystery murders of secularist cultural figures.

The crowd of mourners of whom had been in hiding in recent days, carried the body of most complete silence, punctuated by calls of "There is no God but f

Many seemed sceptical that the announcement of several arrests on Monday would end the killings that have claimed at least three dissident writers and two political activists.

connection with the murders, but no detaits were available.

Iranian moderates have criticised | victims shared in life, and now i conservative rivals in the state secu- death, strongly suggest the murrity apparatus for failing to halt the | ders were politically motivated. string of mystery murders that has unnerved the nation and forced some

found dead and a fourth has gone political struggle and casting doubt on President Mohammed Khatami's ability to maintain order.

a bridge in a Tehran suburb.

last week, days after he disapcious circumstances. Prouz Davna.

Pouyandeh and Mokhtari were

missing in recent days, bringing a | independent writers' and journalmacabre mystery to the country's lists' union that existed before the Blair, called the murders horrifying. ratist forces in a two-year war. 1979 Islamic revolution.

ministries have launched an official The body of Mohammed Jafar | inquiry into the killings. The deputy | down hopes of a swift conclusion to Mokhtari to a waiting hearse in al- Pouyandeh, a 45-year-old translator | interior minister, Mostafa Taizadeh. and author, was found last Sunday | said the attacks reflected a "danger- | Russian foreign minister nor 1 unstrangled and dumped underneath | ous plot almed at insinuating a lack | derestimate the difficulty of making

of security in Iran". That may well be the plan. Vio- | Chechenia. Mokhtari's body was discovered lent deaths are rare in today's Iran peared. Javad Sharif, a writer who | and with each killing Mr Khatami's | was that one of the kidnappers' tenuous hold on law enforcement is years ago, was found dead in suspi- exposed

### UK queries Grozny version of murders

**Tom Whitehouse In Moscow** and Rory Carroll

accept claims that a botched rescue attempt precipitated the decapitation of four engineers held hostage in Chechenia.

The Chechen president, Aslan Maskhadov, blamed the deaths on a security force blunder, but contradictions led observers to question

The deputy prime minister, Turpan Altgeriev, earlier told Russian clear. There are lots of stories coming out of Chechenia. Any version

The heads of three Britons and a New Zealander were found in a sack | sion to the dispute as Chechen tele Grozny. Hundreds of security officers immediately began searching for the bodies. Russian television showed pictures of the heads.

The men were seized in Grozny on October 3 by 20 armed men. Three of them had been sent to install 300,000 telephone lines as

part of a \$320 million contract with

Granger Telecom.. The interior and intelligence tary, Robin Cook, met his Russian the hunt for the killers. "Neither the

One of the few consistent details associates was arrested before the exposed.

The security forces, including the

The security forces, including the security forces, includ intelligence service, report to the have decided to kill their hostages of an abyss". He said a crucial opport to the have decided to kill their hostages of an abyss". He said a crucial opport to the people now face severe No one has been charged with | country's conservative supreme | and flee. Kidnap insurers in London |

progress in the lawless state of

nappers would lose time by beheat ing their victims. Backtracking on a pledge to

Maskhadov said: "A concrete crime nal group was identified, an organiser of the abductions was arrested and an approximate location of the hostages was determined." He re fused to identify the man.

An alternative theory to explain the killings hardened after a grenade attack on the offices of Granger Tele com's partner, Chechen telecom. The Sevodnya newspaper sait

the victims were pawns in a battle to undermine Vakha Arsanov, Chechen vice president and leading figure in il Chechen telecom. The company's competitors could be using terrorin; tract for the construction of a new But there is also a political dimen-

Arsanov. The murders and attacks could be an attempt to discredit him.

President Maskhadov will find it difficult to fulfil his pledge of justice. Even if he knows the murder

ers' identities and whereabouts, an | 5 attempt to arrest them would be a dangerous military operation that

Russia's refusal to hand over money it promised to help Cheche John Vidal nia's reconstruction also under

tunity to support Mr Maskhadov: malnubition and food shortages. the killings. But the similarities the leader rather than to the president. | questioned why in this case the kid- moderate policies had been missed. | A new UN Food and Agriculture



Granger Telecom..

Since being elected president last Brazil's growing bands of street children reflect the explosion of year after leading Chechenia's separation poor people in cities

Brazil's growing bands of street children reflect the explosion of year after leading Chechenia's separation poor people in cities

### In Brussels the UK Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, met his Russian bis authority evaporate and counterpart, Igor Ivanov, and played criminality explode. He narrowly survived an assassination attempt by urban underclass

ORGET images of starving chil-Boris Berezovsky, the Russia dren in a barren, drought-baked release of two British hostages is global hunger, says the United Na-

Organisation report paints a bleak prospect for the poorest urban Infrastructure in these burgeoning. chaotic cities is unable to keep pace with the demand for food. People

According to World Bank figures, the number of poor people in cities (1) years and should reach a billion

porters, markets and retailers. thanging rural poverty and lack

businessman who helped secure the countryside. The stark new face of says the report. One study showed

not always reach the consumer. "Up human rights activists have

and distribution to get food to consumers. But in many cases there is in mow outnumber the rural poor roads, vehicles and market places,

Many cities have been unable to was formed this month. contained in the documents becontained in the document been the compound worldwide, cope with the extra demands of the French interior limits y said least, is the teath.

Cause the KGB would have been the report. Asian cities are their new inhabitants. A city of 10 it had lost track of Mr Duvalier, and Mr Bioncourt said France was informed of the Stasi's intelli-African ones by approximately 4 per at least 6,000 tonnes of food every former president's lawyer in Paris, "The authorities claim not to know The Christian Democratic opposition, in power when the CIA position, in power when the CIA position, in power when the CIA position is power when the CIA power when the CIA position is power when the CIA position is power when the CIA position is power when the CIA power when the

What is needed, says the report, is disportunity for appailing city conand more investment in mines to allow people to grow foor Last month a group of former

Last month a group of former

The implications for food secu
The im East German dissidents who that the US embassy warning that lack of access to the documents lack of access to the documents constituted "a destabilisation of constituted "a des

says Dr Nugent. "The situation could get worse. It's pretty scary." family's 31-year rule.

John Hooper meets the Kurdish rebel leader some call 'uncle', others 'terrorist' Kurdish guerrilla leader, has decided not to press for his exsaid on Monday that there tradition for fear of violence

Ocalan calls for peace

on November 20, but is being held Speaking from Italy, where he is | under such tight security it is debatable whether he is at liberty.

newspaper that "There is a state of | show a macho figure. In the flesh, it ment and the Kurds and everybody myself with two choices, either go back to the armed struggle and con- ter than a guerrilla overlord. time to defend ourselves or seek

Last Sunday he renounced his village near Urfa in southeastern guerrillas and said he was cutting | Turkey. "As a child, I was always the Party (PKIO) and Turkish security a bit of rebel towards my parents," 15 years, then I have nothing to do | nationalist identity at all." In flushing him out, Turkey may

Turkey to stand trial for terrorism. He told the Guardian: "At least 10,000 people will go on a death fast

lu his first interview with a British newspaper, he appealed to Britain and other European countries to mediate in the struggle between his movement and Ankara. "What we want most . . . is for this war to stop . . . for the Turkish state to recognise that the Kurdish problem is a political one and accept the need for dialogue," he said.

in Europe alone."

called his choice of peace to settle

his party's 14-year fight for self-rule

in southeast Turkey.

Almost 30,000 people have died since Mr Ocalan's PKK turned to prices have risen more than the cost | guerrilla warfare 14 years ago. Preignored by Turkey, which says it

was no going back on what he between Germany's sizeable Kur-

nicknamed Apo (uncle in Kurdish). more the air of a village schoolmas-

Europe's help. We preferred the toothy smile that hints at a wilder side. He was born 49 years ago in a

have done Mr Ocalan an odd sort of favour. The furore has enabled him to highlight the Kurdish issue in hunger strike if he is extradited to | Europe, Europe, he argued, had a failure to secure a homeland for the

BDULLAH OCALAN, the | basis of a German warrant. Bonn | Kurds when the Ottoman empire was dismantled in the 1920s.

"All the problems they have with Turkey not meeting the criteria for membership of the European Union, He was freed by a court in Rome all the problems with demo cratisation and human rights, are directly related to the Kurdish issue Unless the Kurdish question is solved, I do not feel that Turkey can ever become a member of the EU."

What stands in the way of this attempt to internationalise the probaccountability over human rights Though Italy has refused to hand Mr Ocalan back to Turkey there is the growing prospect of the leader being tried for the atrocities allegedly committed by his movement.

"I accept that there is a war and between his Kurdistan Workers on doing what he wanted to do. I was | causes destruction," he said, "but with Turkey you are dealing with a tinue what they have been doing for | teens, I was not really aware of my | tried to annihilate other peoples syrians. We, the Kurds, were faced with the same policies and were trying to defeat those policies."

Were there things that had been done in his name he regretted? moral responsibility because of its | "Our struggle has not always been waged in the way that I would like it to have been. There are certain individuals who have committed acts using our name, but not our policies. I have often said that there are people who belong to our movement who have caused us more trouble than our enemies."

So what of a trial? "I would completely reject any action to put me on trial as an individual or as a terrorist I would resist that with the utmos force. But if there is an international tribunal that is prepared to investi gate the war in Kurdistan, and i there is evidence of crimes, I would not mind appearing or even paying the price if I am found to have committed those crimes. But putting me on trial as an individual is not going to help in finding a solution."

### Korea war captives free | Germans demand Stasi spy files from CIA

Jonathan Watts in Tokyo

WO South Koreans, listed as killed in action in the Korean war, have escaped from communist North Korea after more than 40 years in captivity.

Bok-ki, aged 67, flew home from a | Chang Mu-hwan, one of only three "third country" where they had been in hiding since their escape | to have escaped the northern coal | ited out of East Berlin in 1990. earlier this year, the South Korean mines. It is a perilous journey. Es- The files, taken from the former Agency for National Security capees must elude the border guards East German foreign intelligence Planning said last Sunday.

The two men were taken prisoner camp near the North Korean capital | the safety of those left behind. Pyongyang, they were forced to The number of South Korean the records. The files were labour at a coal mine in the north of | troops still held captive by the | compiled by the Stasi's foreign the country. Until their sudden North is also unclear. Pyongyang in espionage service, which was reappearance, they were listed as sists that it took only 7,000 prison- headed by legendary apymaster killed in action by the South Korean | ers and repatriated them all at the | Markus Wolf. Much of the

defence ministry. but the "third country" where they sought refuge was probably China. | more than 20,000 prisoners of war | offered the East Germans The term is usually used by Seoul to | remain unaccounted for, of whom avoid embarrassing Beijing, which | 130 are still alive.

has a treaty with Pyongyang to re-

They were accompanied by Mr Kim's son and Mr Park's daughter. The elderly men and their chil-

dren are likely to have fled across the frozen Tumen river. That was Park Dong-il, aged 71, and Kim | the route taken earlier this year by | Bonn demanding that the CIA other South Korean prisoners of war | German secret service files spirand risk falling through the ice.

South Korean intelligence offi- names of 13,000 Stasi spies. by Chinese troops fighting for the | cers are now debriefing the es- | They were bought secretly by the North Koreans during the closing capees. It is not known whether Mr US in 1989 and 1990, in the stages of the war in 1953 and Park or Mr Kim have any remaining | chaotic months before and after handed over to the North. After | relatives in the North, but previous | the fall of the Berlin Wall. several years in a prisoner of war | escapees have said they feared for

end of the 1950-53 conflict. It also | material had been hidden outside

Little is known about their flight, accuses Seoul of holding captives. East Berlin before the wall fell. But South Korea claims that

lan Traynor in Bonn

ERMANY and the United States are at loggerheads over what is believed to be the greatest intelligence coup of the last days of the cold war, with

service, are said to contain the

Bonn has been trying, with increasing frustration, to recov

CIA agents are said to have hundreds of thousands of dollars for the papers.

The German government told Washington last week that it was "unacceptable for the German authorities to have no idea of the

scope and nature" of the files'

But in recent years the CIA has allowed German colleagues to see some of the files relevant to trials being held in Germany. The material in the files has also been used as evidence in several US espionage trials, according to a recent report in the Washington Post.

But the new German government of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder has indicated a more assertive stance with the dispatch to Washington earlier this month of Peter Frisch, the head of counter-intelligence. He lobbied for the return of the files and met George Tenet, the CIA

director. Bonn has said that it is unacceptable to be kept in the dark about - potentially thousands of former East German agents working in the reunited Germany. Ernst Uhrlau, a former

Hamburg policeman who has

that Bonn was being prevented they can of their income on what from obtaining an accurate pic. they eat, while paid work is scarce ture of the scale of the problem or non-existent

intelligence has the information becomes more urbanised.

gence activities. acquired the files, has complained that more than 1,000

ex-Stasi agents could not be

identified without the files. German democracy" because many former spies remained in her have neither access to nor the key positions throughout society.

than rural consumers do, but get | month and was arrested on the | Ocalan: changing tack

tances to markets; and their food is dwellers in developing countries. often contaminated because of Food supplies, says the report, do

are being forced to spend up to 80 to 30 per cent of all food has been lost by the time it reaches the market, which adds to prices and further marginalises the poorest." As cities grow, they require bigger and more developed transport

### problems for the poorest, who lack transport but have to go long dis-

Jon Henley in Paris

formed an association to demand has lived in France since 1986 but whose whereabouts are unknown.

The French interior ministry said | least, is uncertain. he had "no idea where he is".

"The poor are being ignored," Tens of thousands of people were | warrant in connection with the dis- prisonment for human rights crimes. massacred or tortured during the appearance of Alexei Jaccard, a 25-

Mr Duvalier was allowed into went missing in Buenos Aires in France but he was refused political | 1977 \_\_\_\_AITIAN exiles and French refugee status and has not been is-

government to "welcome whoever it | ing kidnapping and murder.

Mr Duvalier settled at first on the 60,000 victims of his and his father's | Côte d'Azur, but moved to Paris | extradition request. Bernard by the end of next year. The urban little public money available for regimes, to ensure that Jean-Claude when he ran into financial difficult Bertossa, Geneva's public prosecu-Duvalier is judged," said the Haitian- ties in 1993. Since then he has re- tor, admitted that Gen Videla could worked for the Stasi in the West many countries, a trend that is and the private sector has little born poet Gérald Bioncourt, a co-portedly been evicted from his onl, be arrested if he left Argentina, It is assumed that Russian from the world interest in feeding the poorest.

It is assumed that Russian from the suburb of Puteaux, As an Argentine citizen, he cannot and his current address, officially at be extradited from his home coun-

Peter Capella in Geneva adds: A

Baby Doc Duvalier, now aged 47, Swiss magistrate has issued an incame to power in Haiti in 1971 after | ternational arrest warrant for Genthe death of his father, "Papa Doc". | eral Jorge Videla, effectively

Christine Juned, an investigating

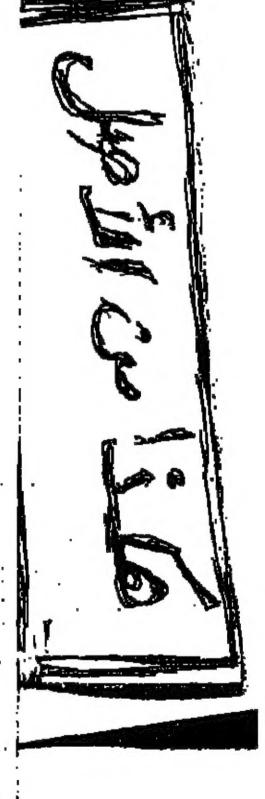
The case led Switzerland to ask for the extradition of General Au-A spokesman for the foreign min- gusto Pinochet, the former Chilean of the former Haitian dictator Jean- granted "territorial asylum", a discre- after a criminal complaint by Jac-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier, who | tionary status allowing the French | card's widow, Paulina Veloso, alleg-

Describing the Videla warrant as a logical extension of the Pinochet try. "It is not an extradition re-

quest," the prosecutor confirmed. Gen Videla was placed under house arrest in Buenos Aires in June by judges investigating allegations that the junta organised the systematic theft of babies from jailed political opponents between 1976 and 1981. The children were

often adopted by military couples. He was originally granted a pardon by President Carlos Menem, together with several other middle and high ranking officers in 1990, five vate militia, the Tontons Macoutes. | magistrate in Geneva, issued the | years after being sentenced to life im-

year-old Swiss-Chilean student who Pinochet extradition, page 9



**WASHINGTON DIARY Martin Kettle** 

N MEDIEVAL times a sinning ruler had so many more options to show his penitence. He could go on a pilgrimage; scourge him-self; abase himself before the altar; wash the feet of the poor. The repertoire was almost endless.

In modern secular societies, such as the United States, the options are narrower. Perhaps Bill Clinton ton-haters in the Republican party should indeed have crawled in sack- | would decide that the game was up. cloth along Pennsylvania Avenue to the steps of the Capitol, accompanied by Congressional flagellants, to perform a penitent washing of the feet of a group of Washington news-paper pundits. But, in the absence | slacken over the past few weeks. On the contrary, it increased to the leader's only means of contrition is | whether Clinton will still be in the apology. And there is a limit to the White House in six months' time. effectiveness of repeated apology, as the events of recent days show.

The votes in the House of Representatives' judiciary committee to | ate his personal contrition and articadopt articles of impeachment have left Clinton and the entire American political establishment peering into the abyss, suddenly realising that Washington is entering one of the greatest constitutional crises in US | in victory.

Last month that seemed improbable. In the aftermath of the November mid-term elections, the prospect often appeared to be going nowhere, dismissed, and Vice-President Al over the coming days could hardly the votes to dish him, or so it of Clinton's impeachment seemed but which in the end emerged as an to recede rapidly. Almost as rapidly | eccentric but potentially explosive as it has now advanced again.

were rocked on their heels by coming it was too late. Democratic gains when they had been expecting Democratic losses. resignation of Clinton's hounder-in- debarred from "holding or enjoying | be higher, since at least three south- | The past two weeks have seen all | Washington Post, page 15

chief, Newt Gingrich, and his replacement by the apparently pragmatic Bob Livingston, merely added to the sense that the investigation of Clinton was running into the sand.

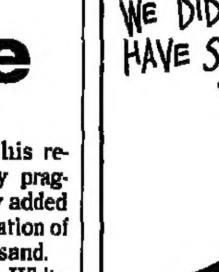
It now appears that the White House may have relaxed too much Crucially, it may have taken the election results and the continuing anti-impeachment opinion poll find-ings — last week's daily Gallup polls showed the usual 60 per cent-plus

of that attractive fantasy, the modern | point that no one can say for certain

to have made a single, key mistake, | words of the impeachment articles it may be Clinton's failure to reiterulate the need for a new start based on a forceful censure motion - after the November elections. Instead, for whatever reason. Clinton was complacent rather than humble

impeachment inquiry that has somel times veered towards farce, has missile hurtling towards the very In those elections, in which the heart of the US constitution. And by politicians whose existence had please their own core voters, who hality. Last week the Republican the time Clinton saw the missile been widely forgotten in recent are predominantly anti-Clinton con- party proved itself ready to g

In the end, and after four and a half years of inquiry into all kinds of lican majority, at least 11 were that impeachment would ultimately the electorate seemed to have given altegations against him, Clinton now - required to swing against impeach - fail-in-the Senate has similarly lent a the definitive thumbs down to the faces the prospect that he will be ment in order to save Clinton. In sense of security to Clinton and of impeachment drive. The immediate stripped of the presidency - and fact, the numbers probably need to unreality to the continuing process. | Comment, page 12







any office of honour, trust or profit | ern Democrats are going to vote for | those assumptions disappear. While I will announce the discovery If the administration can be said | under the United States" in the | impeachment. ceal an unconsummated but embarrassing affair with the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

If any article of impeachment passed by a simple majority of the House's 435 members then the Senate must hold a trial of the president As a result, he underestimated an as soon as possible. If two-thirds of become issues themselves, the Senate's 100 members vote to convict Clinton, he is immediately Gore will succeed him.

has been focused on a group of years — the Republican moderates.

— as a result of his attempts to con- stated their opposition to impeachment at the time of writing. A further 34 are variously deemed pressures on them have been intense, and the arm-twisting tactics by both sides - over a question supposedly of conscience — have

indeed for the Republican party be higher. Throughout the crisis As a result, US domestic politics | many have assumed that the Repub- | times. Events can have a momentum licans were more concerned to of their own, which confounds ratio servatives, than to worry about the through with what amounts to a con-In a House with a 228-207 Republactual outcome. The assumption

most Americans went shopping for Six Republicans have already Christmas, the atmosphere here became heavy with historic dress. There is, it needs to be said, an es | 3 million years have been found

Yet the stakes for Clinton — and | Clinton will survive, even if he is in | peached in the Senate. There aren't has been traced back to discovappears. But these are not rational | Africa, Australopithecus stitutional coup d'état. In such cir cumstances reason is not much of a guide to pollties, or anything else.



IN MY OWN MIND

[ MISLED, BUT

NEVER

LIED ...

asperating tendency for supposedt: informed opinion in the capital to veer rapidly from complacency that everything is OK for Clinton to ale | talism that all is about to be lost. The rational conclusion to be it would confirm that Africa was drawn from the available facts is that if the cradle of the human race.

New clues to human origins Vikram Dodd

GUARDIAN WEEKLY December 20 1998

○ CIENTISTS have discovered Othe 3 million-year-old fos-fillsed skeleton of a distant human ancestor in South Africa,

it was revealed last week. The find will reopen the debate about the origins of humanly and suggests ancestors may have reached more of Africa than previously thought. Details of the find were for-

mally announced by a team from University of Witwatersrand, which has a record of important inthropological discoveries. Their thunder was somewhat stolen by a South African minister who blurted out some details. Post, Telecommunications

and Broadcasting Minister Jay Naidoo announced the finding while on a visit to India. In a statement he said: "We

ancestors. Remains of an almost complete skeleton dating back

The remains predate any fossils found anywhere south of Tanzania by half a million years. The claims over the find, if true.

Until now mankind's ancestry eries of ancient remains in east

Anthropologists will want to examine the skeleton's feet and hands to see if its development suggests it could have used tools or walked. If so that would shed new light on human evolution. The oldest known man-made lools date from 2.5 million years

The skeleton appears to have a brain one-third of the size of the modern human brain, which is larger than that of "Lucy", the oldest skeleton of a human antestor found. That was dated to 1.75 million years ago after ing unearthed in Ethiopia.



Russians feel the big chill

James Meek in Pevek

N LATE November, in the long evening of the 40-day polar night now shrouding their condemned village, Igor Mikhailevsky, Slava Ryubin and nine other council workers lay down to starve. Turning hunger into protest was

a formality. They had worked without pay for more than three years, ming the trickle of food keeping them and their families alive, they lost the last reason to keep clocking on. "We're not really on hunger "We've been hungry for a long time. The only difference is we're not

working any more." wasteland of the Chukotka penintheory they are free to leave at any them from the Stalin-era convicts who founded their bleak settle-

food, not money. Like the political | food ration arranged through the orisoners whose lives were casually expended in the Utonian cause of making the Arctic bloom, they are trapped in a frozen, unforgiving land, cut off by poverty, red tape

such as the central heating system. in the settlement of Apapelgino, a cluster of houses and blocks of flats around the airport serving the Arc-The advent of market forces and

nity means Apapelgino has to close, but the authorities have no money elther to relocate the inhabitants or to pay them. The people cannot leave because their homes are worth nothing and they cannot threat to turn off Apapelgino's central heating - but that would condemn their own families to

local shop against future wages: 1kg of rice, tkg of peas, tkg of sugar, 2kg of flour, 2kg of meat, and 500g of salted fish, plus bread, Some households of three or four have been subsisting on this alone, without the means to buy clothes, soap or toothpaste. After the financial crisis hit Russia in August, even this | polar bears.

allowance slipped. The hunger strikers — eight men and three women - are growing weaker. One man has been taken to hospital with a condition made worse by malnutrition. The men and women lie in two separate, stuffy rooms in a barrack-like block near

"The food they give us isn't enough," sobbed one of the women, Valentina Velichko. "We don't have any butter or tea. My son has a baby Russia. Their only leverage is the boy, aged one, and he's hungry. My son's hungry, too, and his wife's

Pevek was founded in 1937, when Stalin's power of life and death For two years the council has | turned the ravings of the polar exstaved off confrontation by offering plorer Otto Schmidt Into reality. the workers an otovarka, a monthly Schmidt told a British Stalinist sym-

RUSSIA

pathiser of plans to grow wheat in the Arctic. "People believe that the Arctic is wasteland, incapable of development, useless to mankind, a frozen desert," he said. "They are utterly wrong. The cold is no obstacle against human habitation."

Once the Gulag generation had built the Arctic communities, they were peopled by migrants attracted by high wages and enormous state expenditure. Instead of mining Chukotka's rich seams of gold with rotating shift workers, entire families were shipped in, and everything from kindergartens to greenhouses built to eater for them.

The collapse of the Soviet Paion. partly caused by the burden of supporting the far north, has left the northerners stranded.

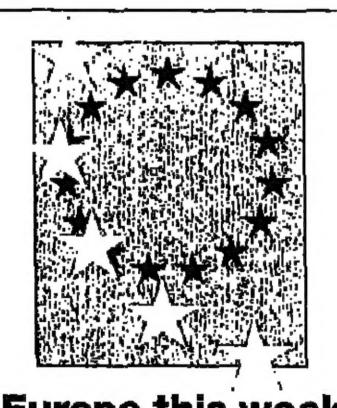
Pevek has an esplanade and hotel. But the sea is a frozen sheet. crossed by occasional foraging

There are no roads or railways out of Pevek. Once home to 12,000 people, now with only 5,000, it has no cinemas or theatres. Going out means donning a spacesuit-like assembly of hats, coats and layered clothing. In minutes exposed flesh can turn white with the first burn of

Those who were able to leave have already packed up their belongings and gone, leaving ever poorer Russians, many of them pensioners, disabled and single-parent families, crowding on to waiting list for the few free flats in central Russia that the state provides each year.

Larissa Kozar, head of Pevek's social security office, said: "We all came to work temporarily. I've lived here temporarily for 21 years."

### Clashes over cash let Britain off the hook



### **Europe this week**

Martin Walker

RITAIN escaped isolation over ern countries led by Spain, who are cial summit in Brussels in March.

freeze as the only way to choke the seized the chance to go on the offen- which France joins the north. There all begun formal accession negotiagrowth in spending. The poor southsive against the tabloid newspapers.

Is a split between the main farming tions, along with Poland, which has was hoping to "re-nationalise" part net recipients from the current sys- tabloid spat was Spain's threat to veto | France joins the south. There are | Britain, France and Germany comtem, bitterly opposed the plan. The any attempt to freeze the \$100 bilstage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of the stage is now set for three months of lion FU budget as deposed of lion FU b stage is now set for three months of lion EU budget, as demanded by who mostly back Britain's proposal

ing north-south split could be paid by | Brussels, would be the biggest loser the eastern European countries, from such a freeze.

could now be delayed until 2005 or | the president of the European Parlia- | dling band of Euro-federalists, sidies. The three Scandinavian states | Spain's medieval hero, El Cid, won a | chancellor, Helmut Kohl. and Britain are fighting hard to fulfil there can be no enlargement until its | place, pure and simple, are being budget problems are resolved.

The budget freeze plan got Tony Blair off the hook after weeks of presummit speculation, fuelled by the | really directed at Germany, whose | them and do something," he said. Eurosceptic British tabloid news new Social Democrat chancellor, His successor, Schröder, had alat this with Germany, and are prepapers, that Britain could be forced Gerhard Schröder, stunned the sum- ready "done something" on Kohl, pared to try anything that can make to give up its budget rebate and sub- mit by warning that enlargement and accusing him of letting Germany be mit to sweeping tax harmonisation. | all other EU business would be | fleeced in the past by buying off To the undisguised glee of the prime | blocked unless Germany got a deal | disputes with money. minister's delegation, neither topic to pay less into the budget. its jealously guarded budget arose prominently in the meeting of the new dynamics of Europe are is to buy off Spain, Portugal and cratic government does not depend to the European Union sum. rebate at the European Union sum15 heads of government in the far more complex than the old Greece at the price of delaying the on farm votes. Schröder has already in the price of delaying the long farm votes. Schröder has already in the price of delaying the long farm votes. Schröder has already in the price of delaying the long farm votes. mit in Vienna last weekend by leading other rich northern countries in a part of the old Hapsburg pattern of Britain versus the rest. costs and disruptions of EU enlargeargued strenuously with France's pattern of Britain versus the rest. ing other rich northern countries in emperors. Blair and his press There are splits between the north ment, Hungary, the Czech Republic,

The nearest the summit came to a countries and the rest, in which more subsidy-hungry farmers than rows before a deal is done at a speBritain, Germany and other large for a common EU defence policy, explicit in admitting the link be governments. France opposed the contributors. Spain, which receives | and the neutral states such as Aus- | tween budget reform and enlarging The price of resolving this emerg- more than \$8 billion a year from tria, Sweden, Finland and Ireland.

battle after his death. Thatcherism

should, in theory, be opposed."

The most profound new split is states of eastern Europe. between the nation states, including "If we enlarge the EU then we European Community in 1957.

who are pragmatically determined to run Europe's affairs on an inter-The point was forcefully made by government basis, and the dwin- he said. Under the existing struclater — thus easing the pressures to | ment, Spain's José-Maria Gil-Robles, | whose swan song was sung at the | their costs "sky-rocket to unimagin reform the EU budget and farm sub- when he declared: "Legend says that summit by Germany's defeated ex- able heights. This is impossible."

"Keep firm hold of that great the EU's promises to its ex-commu- appears to be performing a similar vision of Europe beyond your daynist neighbours. But the new Ger- feat. Its slogan of 'I want my money | to-day politics," Kohl pleaded as the | the best way to resolve the budget man government — determined to | back' and its demand for a Union | summit made him "honorary citizen act tough for its own voters -- insists | that is nothing more than a market | of Europe". And he asked the 15 leaders "not to make me a monuadopted by the governments which | ment in my lifetime. You know what happens to monuments when the That apparent jibe at Britain was | ceremony is over. The birds sit on

demanding a seven-year EU budget | spokesman. Alastair Campbell, | and south over the budget freeze in | Slovenia, Estonia and Cyprus have | eign minister, Joschka Fischer, was the EU to the former communist

must implement substantial reforms because the agricultural market would explode around our heads," ture, net contributors would see

Britain is now hoping to enlist Germany in the effort to reform the common agricultural policy (CAP) as crisis. Britain also hopes to recruit Portugal, as a southern country that benefits little from the CAP.

"We are militants on the subject of CAP reform, and it is important, CAP reform come about."

The new factor driving the British plan for an all-out assault on the CAP But the only compromise on offer is that Germany's new Social Demo President Jacques Chirac over the in Potsdam last month. Germany some of the authority to decide and sion and turning it over to national move as undermining EU solidarity. and as dismantling a system that had endured since the birth of the

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Jamle Wilson, Nick Hopkins

ACK STRAW'S historic decision to allow General Augusto

Pinochet's extradition to go

brward was last week hailed as a

efining moment for international

aw, at the same time as it plunged

The decision, on the eve of the

50th auniversary of the Universal

Declaration of Human Rights

signalled the birth of a new era,

according to human rights groups.

It also effectively condemns the

general to remain behind closed

doors in Britain for up to two years

without any prospect of returning to

But the immediate recall of the

Chilean ambassador to Santiago,

Mario Artaza, and the prospect of a

legal wrangle that could last up to

two years meant that the Govern-

ment was far from disentangling

lic. "Jack Straw should be congratu-

lated for not bowing to political

spokesman, Richard Bunting.

Human rights groups were eesta-

The mood contrasted with the

itself from the crisis.

the Government into legal and

and Ewen MacAskill

### Unholy row leaves abbey organist out in the cold

Neary and his wife, Penny, for using any offence has been committed. their positions to collect "secret profits" from musical events by the the safety of the public was his

abbey's choir. hearing, costing £500,000. Dr Neary, earlier honoured by the Queen for his part in organising the music for the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, had enlisted politicians and establishment figures to fight his cause, and the battle also attracted criticisms of the dean, the Very Rev Wesley Kerr.

cleric, was thought by many church figures to have won the battle but | Government's advisory body on anilost the war. Observers were puzzled as to why the dispute over a sum of about £12,000 could not have been resolved amicably. Dr and Mrs Neary emphasised that they had been found guilty of misjudgment, not of dishonesty. The dean, however, insisted that he could not have overlooked the principle at stake.

The dispute, the latest of several, prompted repeated questions: How can people call themselves Christian and behave like this? What is it about cathedrals that causes these awful squabbles?

One reason is that Westminster Abbey is a "Royal Peculiar" directly could perhaps have resolved the dispute diplomatically. Even Lord | trieve 64 love letters she wrote to matter as "scoring a gamma minus on the scale of natural justice".

HE SCOTS, soon to have their | mer flancée, Anna Staiano Ferretti, own devolved Parliament, were enraged to learn that devolution | she tried to sell the letters to a newsdoes not extend to allowing them to | paper for £150,000. The newspaper have their own version of the BBC's Six O'Clock News. Both the Prime Minister and his Scottish Chancellor, Gordon Brown, were implacably | rity Agency admitted that American opposed to the idea and were thought to have made their stance known to "friendly" BBC governors.

The Scottish National party denounced the decision as "flying in the face of the Scottish consensus". The BBC governors, it was thought, shied away from taking a decision that might be seen as offering a symbol of Independence to the nationalists.

ESPONDING to anxieties about a crimes and murders carried out by mentally itl people living outside hospitals, the Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, announced a £700 million review of the "care in the community" concept. More secure beds will be provided for mentally ill people and "assertive outreach teams" formed to keep tabs on patients living outside hospital and, if necessary, "ensuring their compliance with medical treatment".

Under the community care scheme, it has not been possible to force patients to take the medication

HE CHURCH of England once | prescribed for them. Michael Stone, again appeared at its most quar- recently convicted of killing Lynn relsome when Martin Neary, one of Russell and her young daughter Britain's finest organists, lost his Megan, in Kent, had been disappeal to be reinstated as organist | charged from hospital after being at Westminster Abbey. The Queen's | deemed "untreatable". In future, commissioner, Lord medical orders can be applied to Jauncey, vindicated the decision of | those thought to "pose a grave risk the dean and chapter to sack Dr to the public" regardless of whether

prime concern, civil liberties This was the outcome of a 12-day | activists feared that forcing patients to take medication against their will "drugged up to stop them from causing trouble".

activist, called off his hunger strike after 68 days. Supporters said geese, being fattened for sale at Broomhill Farm, Nesscliffe, Shropshire The dean, a stiffly unpopular | he had changed his mind after Michael Banner, chairman of the inal experiments, had agreed to call a meeting with the all-party parliamentary group on animal welfare.

The Home Office insisted that there had been "no deal", but supporters of Mr Horne, who is serving an 18-year prison sentence for firebombing, claimed the hunger strike had "highlighted the strength of feeling against vivisection and the seriousness of the issue".

He had certainly captured the headlines, particularly with a threat by the Animal Rights Militia to kill four scientists if Mr Horne died.

began a High Court action to rewere stolen from him and should not have been handed to the firm.

Earlier this year Mr Hewitt's forwas arrested amid allegations that handed the letters to a staff member at Kensington Palace.

Meanwhile the US National Secuintelligence agencies held more than 1.000 pages of files on the princess | winning a hard-fought battle for which, it claimed, could cause "exceptionally grave damage to national security" if made public,



Though Mr Dobson stressed that

right to live in Britain.

under domestic law.

Mrs Obhu, from Erdington,

in the UK as an EU national. The | British Nationality Act came into arguing that the law was "so clear" stance that no reference to Europe

But the judge said the law was "not clear", and that the case involved issues "of profound impor-Despite Home Office opposition, tance and raises questions of EU national, but fell into a category High Court judge gave Manjit | fundamental rights". A crucial Issue Kaur Obhu, aged 49, permission to needing clarification was the legal- the UK. ask the Luxembourg court for a rul- ity and effect of declarations made ing that under Community law she by the UK to limit who was a British is an European Union national with | national dating back to 1975, when European Community.

than the Bishop of London, who affair with Diana, Princess of Wales, rights of abode currently denied her the UK acceded as a member of the quashed by the European Court, Jauncey, though harsh on Dr Neary, him. They are held by London Birmingham, is challenging a Home was born in Kenya in June 1949, and bourg court would also be asked to criticised the abbey's handling of the lawyers who act for the princess's Office decision in January last year | became a citizen of the UK and | decide whether she was entitled to

overseas citizen. After being refused entry, she entered the UK in May, 1990, "in circumstances which are not clear", the judge said. Her claim to a right to remain as an EU national was rejected by the Home She was told that she was not a

Conservatives. Tory leader William

did not consider Gen Pinochet's age, health or status excused him

Tim Radford

said the Amnesty International to torture, hostage-taking and con- "With respect to your honour, I do he could be tried for human rights spiracy to take hostages. All these | not recognise the jurisdiction of any | abuses. The appeal will be heard alleged crimes were included in the other court, except that of my counlegal grounds, Labour MPs crupted However, there was one crumb of

Straw supports Pinochet extradition

comfort for the general. Mr Straw ruled further crimes of genocide | had cost the police £100,000. The outright condemnation of the within the extradition request.

Two days later the general Hague described the decision as appeared at Belmarsh magistrates said Mr Straw has made a "grave | bail hearing.

Some 250 anti-Pinochet cam-Mr Straw explained his authority paigners had been parading their to grant an "authority to proceed" in banners and chanting "Asesino! of all the crimes and deeds of which a five-page written reply to a Parlia- | Asesino!" outside the court from | they irrationally accuse me". mentary question by Vernon early in the morning. A similar Coaker, the Labour MP for Gedling. | number of Pinochet supporters had | object of a cunning and cowardly The Home Secretary made clear he flown into Britain and gathered

Mr Straw said Gen Pinochet was | vened for January 18 — but the | insatiable sentiments of revenge." accused in Spain of offences equiva- general had a statement to make. Earlier, Pinochet's lawyers

try, to try me against all the lies of Spain. That's all I wanted to say."

The hearing lasted 27 minutes. It legal bill is already in excess of

About the same time as the court hearing. Pinochet's one-time inte-"cowardly", and Baroness Thatcher | court, in southeast London, for a | rior minister, Carlos Caceres, read to journalists in Santiago a 13-page letter from the general, in it, he insisted he was "absolutely innocent

> The general said he had "been the hope my sacrifice is the last. I hope The proceedings were almost my pain and the aggression of over — with the hearing recon- which I am a victim can satisfy the

pressure and for allowing the legal | lent to attempted murder, conspir- | Clearing his voice and reading from | launched an unprecedented bid to this week in the same Lords comand two of his fellow judges were

> persuaded that international law no longer protected heads of state who committed crimes against humanity. The move came as the Spanish

judge seeking the extradition of the general, Baltasar Garzón, formally charged Pinochet with crimes against humanity and asked for a freeze of his assets worldwide.

tempting to have the three-two judgment set aside because there is no higher court to which they can appeal. The argument will be heard by five judges — three current law lords (Lords Browne-Wilkinson, Hutton and Hope) — and two who have recently retired (Lords Goff

#### What happens next

Magistrates decide whether Gen Pinochet should be sent to Spain. This could take six months. If they agree with the Home Secretary, Pinochet's legal team can apply for a second judicial review

Further applications to review the case can be made with the court's agreement, if circumstances change, for Instance, if Pinochet falls ill

If all legal challenges fail, Pinochet will be sent to Spain. The whole process could take up to two years

In Spain, he will face trial but will not go to prison; under Spanish law no one over 75 can be jailed.

Lord Hoffmann's role as chairman of Amnesty International Charity Limited, the human rights organisation's fund-raising arm, and his wife's employment as an administrative assistant to Annesty, created an appearance of bias, resulting in a

If the law lords were to agree that the judgment could not stand, the acy to murder, torture, conspiracy a card. Pinochet spoke in Spanish. overturn the law lords' ruling that whole appeal would have to be

> The hearing is part of a twopronged attack the general's legal team hopes will secure his release Napley revealed on Monday that it Mr Straw's decision to let the extradition process begin, Such reviews are usually made on the basis that a or did not exercise discretion.

It is unlikely the application will be made before the new year. By The general's lawyers are at then Pinochet might know whether his appeal to the House of Lords has longer to explain their reasons.

In his ruling, Mr Straw explicitly dismissed suggestions that there was Pinochet's lawyers will argue that | any bias in the law lords' decision.

## Test case paves way to Britain

Christmas dinners . . . Farmer William Brisbourne among his flock of 1,000 free-range Danish Legart

KENYAN Asian woman won the go-ahead last week to seek an urgent test-case in its support of the Government's ruling from the European Court of Justice which, if she wins, could pave the way for thousands of British overseas citizens to claim a

Home Office asked Mr Justice Lightman to block the challenge,

Mrs Obhu, a sewing machinist, estate, but Mr Hewitt claims they | that she was not entitled to remain | colonies at birth. In 1983, the 1981

of citizen with no claim to remain in If the Home Office decision that

whether or not she had a right remain in the UK. But the Luxent

### Diplomats win Judge rules NHS cannot jettison long-term care spouse deal

IPLOMATIC wives, and husbands, are on the point of a better deal from the Foreign Office, which they say has taken them for granted for too long. Spouses of diplomats who

interrupt or sacrifice their own careers by repeatedly being sent sion rights - will get recognition and compensation from April.

Figures depend on how long they have been abroad, how hard they are looking for a job, and whether they show commitment to what mandarins call a "long-term global mobility obligation" - although views of the £1,500 a year on offer range from paltry to insulting.

For 70 per cent of spouses the reality of diplomatic life is never pursuing their career and enduring a routine of crushing boredom punctuated by coffee mornings and Queen's birthdays - to say nothing of civil wars, coups, crime and other hazards of the world's trouble spots.

HE National Health Service has | home for life" in return for agreeing

a legal duty to provide free longterm general nursing care and cannot shift its responsibilities to social services, according to a High Court ruling last week, writes Clare Dyer. The decision has huge implica-

tions for health service resources. During the 1990s large numbers of long-stay hospitals have closed and behaviour breached the European health authorities have transferred | Convention on Human Rights. abroad - and lose their UK pen- patients needing indefinite care to local authority nursing homes. Health authorities claimed that

general nursing care in such homes was the responsibility of social 1971. She is wheelchair-bound, has services, not the NHS. Patients who to be catheterised every two to three can afford to pay are charged for hours and has trouble breathing. care provided by social services, while care under the NHS is free. But Mr Justice Hidden held in the High Court in London that health

health care and solely the responsifairly and irrationally" in deciding to changed and that it was no longer this connected from rotting close Mardon House in Exeter, where three severely disabled patients had been promised "a care in an NHS setting".

The judge held that the promise to Pamela Coughlan, Ross Bentley and Sue Hooper could lawfully b absent in this case. In a rare move

Ms Coughlan, aged 55, brought the case challenging .closure, was paralysed from the waist down in a road accident is

Her solicitor, Nicola Mackintosh said the ruling had very wide implications: "This is a true victory for disabled people all over the country authorities had misinterpreted the law. General nursing care was beauth care was beauth care must still be provided free of charge

under the NHS." He ruled that North and East
Devon health authority acted "unfairly and irrationally" in deciding to entitled or empowered to provide of elegans contains, accordance long-term general pursing to the journal Science, at an alphabet composed of four

CIENTISTS who took an Oalmost invisible worm to pieces to unravel its DNA have finally completed the first genetic blueprint for a whole,

multi-celled animal. The effort took 15 years and cost £30 million, but the creature's genetic code will never be printed. The worm may be tiny, but the code is 97 million letters iong, which if printed on pages would be 25 times thicker than Tolstoy's War And Peace. The blueprint can only be published on the Internet.

The animal is a millimetresixed nematode worm called ( Caernorhabditis elegans. It thists almost everywhere in the emperate world, flourishing in

The particular worms chosen

provide the first complete DNA sequence of a whole animal are descended from a small lamily collected from rotting least 19,099 genes, "written" in

Humans are composed of trillions of cells. The nematode has only 959. The human brain is so complex that some researchers argue that it will never be understood. But C. elegans has a nervous system of only 300 cells, and researchers can watch every one of the "brain" cells at work. Scientists chose the worm

because it is simple, transparent about five years. and - hugely important - outnumbers all other complex creatures on the planet. The worms infect a billion humans spread diseases including river blindness and elephantiasis, devour crops and scavenge in their millions in every square metre of soil, river mud and ocean sediment.

The blueprint will answer questions about evolutionary history and biodiversity - there could be a million species of nematode. Above all, the little creature offers a simple laboratory tool kit for thinking about human genes. The proteins that make a worm also make a human. The complicated

machinery of love, hunger and fear that exists in humans also exists much more simply in the worm. The precise "controls"

> that govern cancer and old age are easier to spot in a worm than And the 97 million-letter script for a worm is a preparation for the effort to "read" the 3 billion-letter recipe for human which should be completed in

The worm study began in piecemeal fashion 15 years ago Cambridge scientists, some of them funded by the Medical Research Council, began copying pieces of the worm's chromosomes and dispatching them to scientists around the. globe who were looking for specific genes. It turned into a systematic effort to assemble the

entire DNA sequence. "The more we go on, the more we realise it is really a microcosm of humanity. This is why is so valuable," said Dr John Sulston, director of the Sanger Centre in Cambridge, which spearheaded the British effort to bring the worm to book.

### One worm plus £30m equals a DNA triumph | Council's plan for pay-off

**David Hencke** 

ROMINENT figures implicated Westminster "homes for votes" affair — are to be offered payments totalling £700,000 at a secret meeting of the authority this week.

leader of the council, up to £1 mil- appeals of five people involved. lion from taxpayers' funds if she wins her appeal against a £27 million surcharge imposed by the district auditor, John Magill, after a legal advice that it has no obligation to compensate those involved, and

none of those who will receive pay-

ments has been totally exonerated. The payments to the individuals and to a trade association which represented the officials involved are that Dame Shirley and the former deputy leader David Weeks should, in principle, receive compensation later if they win their appeal cases.

The biggest beneficiary this week will be Barry Legg, the former Tory MP for Milton Keynes South West and chief whip of the gerrymandering scandal - the Tory authority, who will be offered £165,000 compensation.

The council has been told that i can pay the money only if the recipients are "not in any way culpable" in The proposed payments are a | the scandal. This is not borne out by prelude to offering Dame Shirley | either the district auditor's report or Porter, the former Conservative | by the High Court which heard the

The council has been seeking to find a way to compensate officials and councillors who spent large sums on lawyers and accountants to seven-year inquiry into the scandal. | defend themselves. The council has . Westminster council has received | decided to act this week because i felt the Issue had died down and it would avoid public scrutiny.

The scandal centred on Dame Shirley ordering the designation of eight wards for council home sales so the Conservatives could prevent Labour winning control of the council recommended in a secret report by in 1990. The resulting homeless were the council to be discussed this | dumped outside the borough, some week. The report also recommends in places such as the cockroachinfested Clarendon Court Hotel, recently exposed in a report by the local government ombudsman, Edward Osmotherley.



John Mullin

HE Northern Ireland peace process suffered a fresh crisis last week when the IRA emphatically rejected unionist demands for republicans to decommission their weapons to secure Sinn Fein seats on the province's executive.

IRA sources made clear that republicans had "firmly ruled out" any handover of weapons at a special meeting two weeks ago. The Army Convention, which is believed to have met at a secret location in Co Cavan close to the border with Northern Ireland, also elected a new leadership of the IRA.

Although the statement was the third time this year that the IRA has made clear it will not decommission, the latest move came at a particularly sensitive moment. David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader and Northern Ireland First Minister, used his acceptance speech at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo last week to issue a powerful allow Sinn Fein to take its two seats

they are entitled to their seats solely on the basis of their electoral mandate. Republicans have accused Mr | lighted the strains in the bipartisan | Trimble of attempting to re-write the agreement because it merely | Westminster. The shadow Northern | says that all parties will use their | Ireland secretary, Andrew MacKay, | bated an already tense situation influence to achieve decommission- described the IRA statement as lafter it became clear the IRA had ing by May 2000.

est threat to the peace process and our demands that he draws a line in ders, as its new chief of staff. insisted that the overwhelming ma- the sand and says no more early But senior sources were hinting jority of people in Northern Ireland | release of terrorist prisoners until | at another strategy, that of gunboat wanted both sides in the negotiating | there is substantial and veriflable | diplomacy. The aim of both developstalemate to fulfil their pledges | decommissioning." under the Good Friday agreement.

about the peace process.



plea to the IRA to start a credible Northern Ireland's Nobel Peace Prize laureates, David Trimble and John Hume, light a beacon in Oslo process of decommissioning to last week amid escalating problems over the terms of the Good Friday agreement Photo, MALT FLEDSTAD people temporarily housed in bed

on the new Northern Ireland Irish state broadcaster RTE, IRA sources said they had "firmly ruled | Bailey bomber who led the IRA's | Sinn Fein angrily rejected his out" any decommissioning and in-breakout from the Maze prison in also make decommissioning easier speech because republicans insist | sisted talk of a "gesture" handover | 1983, and one of Sinn Fein's leading | of weapons was "fanciful".

approach to Northern Ireland at breaking its 17-month ceasefire.

However, the IRA statement the accelerated prison release pro- the Sinn Fein president, Gerry added to a growing sense of gloom | gramme, which has seen more than | Adams, no longer had any room to In interviews with the BBC and | ment, would continue.

Meanwhile Gerard Kelly, the Old members in the Northern Ireland The IRA statement also high- Assembly, claimed unionists are trying to provoke the IRA into

Mr Kelly's comments exacer-"shocking", adding: "Perhaps Tony | appointed Brian Keenan, one of its Tony Blair brushed aside the lat- Blair will now respond positively to most uncompromising comman-

ments was to demonstrate to the But Mr Blair made it clear that | British and Irish governments that 200 terrorists freed under the agree- manoeuvre on decommissioning after the IRA ruled it out last week. | Comment, page 12

tials are so unimpeachable, it would to sell to its members if the IRA became convinced that the republican movement would be locked out of government, and the prospect of cross-border bothes reduced. The IRA will not decommission unless it feels it has no other option. There is a deeper bitterness now

to the rhetoric, and a real sense that the Good Friday agreement could collapse. There has been no progress since the summer, and there was rioting in Derry last weekend. And threats Orangemen in Portadown to force their way through police lines on Saturday as part of the Drumcree dispute are fuelling fears of failure.

AMILY doctor Harold Shipman, aged 52, pleaded not guilty at Liverpool Crown Court to murdering 81-year-old Kathleen Grundy in June and forging her will. A date of October 4 was fixed for the trial. He has been charged with the murder of seven other women patients. Twelve former patients' bodies have been exhumed.

In Brief

December 20 1974

DUTY-free sales — scheduled to be abolished in the European Union in July next year won a three-month stay of execution at the EU summit in Vienna.

RITISH STEEL announced it is to axe 855 jobs at Port Talbot and 490 posts at Llanwern, both in Wales.

HE Government promised a renewed offensive to tackle homelessness as figures showed a big increase in the number of and breakfast accommodation -But, because Keenan's creden- partly made worse by a flood of asylum seekers in London.

> VERY job applicant in Britain will be expected to provide proof of a "clean" criminal record under measures to curb child abuse announced by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw.

EVEN million young people aged from 12 to 21 are to be targeted by a governmentbacked company to buy a national from | identity card to prove their age.

> HE practice of egg-sharing. in which a woman is given fertility treatment in return for donating half her eggs to some. one clse, is to be allowed.

RAIN deaths almost doubled in the past year caused by an ment embarrassment by forcing it increase in level crossing fatalities and the Southall rail disaster,

> HE Treasury has approved a scheme that will allow state agencies to retain money they

who fought for the right to

ORD SAINSBURY, the became the second government minister to admit that he benefits

LMOST one in 100 girls aged

ONGESTION and parking charges that could raise up to £1 billion for local transport schemes could be operating within 18 months in cities throughout Britain.

#### December 20 1998

GUARDIAN WEEKLY



Body of work . . . The painter Lucian Freud became the most expensive contemporary artist sold at auction in Europe when his Naked Portrait With Reflection was bought for £2.8 million

## Arms firms exploit loophole

**Richard Norton-Taylor** 

RMS companies are benefit-ing from loopholes in British export controls to supply weapons to countries, including month, in which 14 people died, was Indonesia and Sudan, with a record reportedly supplied by Britain. But of internal repression and human he said he had "no reports" any of it rights abuses, an investigation by Oxfam claims. A report published this week says

a German-based manufacturer of Pakistan. A consignment of its rifles rifles, pistols and submachine-guns, made under licence were recently

Iran, Burma, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Turkey. Its submachine-guns are manufactured in Iran and

This year MKEK, the Turkish export embargo. weapons under licence, agreed to supply 500 submachine-guns to the in any way. Indonesian police in a deal which the British government would have blocked, Oxfam says.

On Monday Foreign Office min- | weapons some equipment used by Indonesian troops quelling rioting last had been licensed for export since Labour took power.

Meanwhile in other deals H&K controls can be bypassed by arms manufacturers by licensing the production of weapons in other countries. It singles out Heckler & Koch, munition for H&K rifles made in which was taken over by Royal shipped to Unita rebels in Angola in Ordnance, a subsidiary of British breach of sanctions.

Its G3 rifle has been licensed for | counter-insurgency vehicles proproduction in countries including | duced under licence by Otokar, a Turkish company, in a deal with Land Rover, have been supplied to Algeria in a shipment which would have been banned under a British

companies involved acted illegally

ister Derek Fatchett confirmed in a Britain, Oxfam says. This was the written parliamentary answer that | case with Sandline, the firm at the heart of arms to Sierra Leone affair. and Mil-Tech, an Isle of Man-based firm, which arranged the sale of weapons in 1994 to Rwanda,

Oxfam's investigation also points to the inadequacy of controls over end-user certificates.

in May military equipment was transported from Belgium to Kent International Airport and loaded on a plane without any checks. The plane eventually landed empty in

A spokesman for H&K said that the company's licence agreements were scrutinised by Whitehall. The The Oxfam report also says that | Department of Trade and Industry said it had no control over deals negotiated by third countries.

David Bryer, Oxfam's director, said Britain should adopt the system operating in the United States where American weapons made under licence elsewhere are There is no suggestion that the | covered by US export controls.

Meanwhile the Government's long-awaited first report on arms Controls are also avoided by exports has been delayed until next arms brokers and security compa- | year due to monitoring difficulties, nies arranging deals where according to Whitehall sources.

### Four presumed dead in 'cruellest tragedy'

Amelia Gentleman

THE 80-strong Scottish island community of Iona was this week in mourning for four young men after one died and three were feared drowned in a boatng accident.

The four and another man who survived had crossed in a small boat to the nearby island of Mull / last Saturday night to go to a Christmas party in Bunessan Disaster struck on their way

home in the early hours of Sunday morning, as they came back across the half-mile stretch separating the two islands. Their boat was submerged by a large wave, and all five were

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thrown overboard. One of the men, Gordon Grant, aged 33, swam back to safety and raised the alarm at a farmhouse at 4.15am. But the body of Robert Hay, aged 23, was washed up on shore.

By Tuesday morning there was still no trace of the other three men - Logie MacFadyen, aged 24, Alisdair Dougal, 19, and David Kilpatrick, 23. Mr Grant is being treated for

hypothermia in Oban, on the Coastguards held out almost no hope that any of them would have survived for long in the icy waters of the North Atlantic.

A woman from Fionsphore

Mull, who declined to be named, said this was the cruellest island tragedy in living memory. "Accidents happen all the time. But I have never known one to compare with this, involving five local boys from five separate and

long-established families." Duncan MacLeod, owner of the Argyli Arms hotel in Bunessan, where the dance was held, said: "The people on Iona will be very, very affected. Iona only has a population of 80 or so, and for young lads like that to be lost from a community of that size is tragic, All of the boys lived on Iona, and I know they are all experienced sailors who make that trip frequently."

### War on tobacco declared

Sarah Boseley

HE Government has declared that set targets for cutting the number of smokers by 1.5 million pledges a £50 million campaign to persuade children not to start smoking and adults to quit.

Organisations representing pubs and restaurants, which will sign a voluntary charter offering no-smoking areas, were delighted by last week's proposals. But some campaigners who want tougher action faster regretted the absence of a smoking ban in public places and an the first draft bill, it was welcomed. falling.

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In the Commons, the Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, said he intended to protect children from war on tobacco. A White Paper | the tobacco industry, which needs 120,000 new young smokers every year — virtually nobody starts smoking in middle age.

"For years, the tobacco industry has poured millions into highly sophisticated advertising campaigns. People of all ages, including children, have been exposed to clever and eye-catching advertising," he said. "All that will now change. Tobacco advertising is going to end and it's going to end soon."

The number of children starting icised the funding available. But as ber of adult smokers has stopped

### Death tax loophole opens | Peers' last stand on Euro bill

Clare Dyer and Maey Kennedy

HOUSANDS of families whose tax loophole given the seal of replaced it with inheritance tax. approval by five law lords in a test case last week. The defeat for the Inland Rev-

enue will deprive it of millions of owner's death, no inheritance tax is pounds and could spur the Govern-The Revenue had challenged the lifetime gift had been made.

allows owners of substantial family | would have been payable. homes to pass them on to their children in their lifetime, while staying | property prices had soared. The | under the Parliament Act, possibly in the house on a fixed-term lease.

device was legally effective could | Lady Ingrani's death. The executors | later this week. enable not just the rich but the of her estate took the case to the tax-free to the next generation. favour. But the Revenue appealed Estates up to £223,000 are exempt | and won in the Court of Appeal. from inheritance tax, but many houses, particularly in the South- accountants took the case to the Ap- list plan, but could help get both east, are worth much more and peal Court and the House of Lords. sides off the hook. The Tory peers, attract substantial death duty.

of agricultural land, in trust to them | Lucy Ward

homes have soared in value in when Nigel Lawson, the Tory chanrecent property booms are expected | cellor, scrapped capital transfer tax, to take advantage of an inheritance introduced by Labour in 1974, and

This created "potentially exempt transfers". If a property is given away at least seven years before the before Christmas. property is taxed on death as if no

died in 1989, over a "lease carve- 1989 aged 73. Had she survived | representation in elections to the | with Tory leader William Hague, out", a tax planning device that three years, a reduced rate of duty | European Parliament next June.

Revenue claimed tax on the full receiving royal assent by the time The law lords' ruling that the value of the freehold property at the Commons rises for Christmas closed lists are undemocratic be- from an offshore tax haven. middle classes to pass their homes | High Court, which ruled in their

The law lords allowed the execu-The ruling will save around tors' appeal, ruling that "property" attrition over the bill could cost ment, which began last month, and £200,000 for the heirs of Lady In- | did not mean a physical entity such | them support, will gain a highgram, who left Hurst Lodge, near | as a house or land, but a specific in- profile chance to make their point, through the Commons in one Twyford, Berkshire, with 61 acres | terest such as a freehold or a lease. | and, they hope, cause the Govern- | sitting earlier this month.

legislation on the statute book elections.

Upper House, Lord Strathclyde, on Monday published an amendment executors of Lady Ingram, the Lady Ingram lived less than two to the Government's bill to bring in Lord Strathclyde's strategy was bear a child by her dead husband, widow of a Barkabina bear a child by her dead husband,

Between the gift and her death, the Lords, the bill will become law

The Tories' challenge at second reading — a tactic last used almost a decade ago — is being billed by A group of 50 solicitors and principled opposition to the closed ment when peers rejected the conscious that a drawn-out war of

to use the Parliament Act to over-The loophole was opened in 1986, ONSERVATIVE peers this rule the Lords. The Government the railway inspectorate said. week are expected to stage a would gain by seeing the measure final show of defiance against the pushed through swiftly, ensuring European Elections Bill in a move | that it becomes law by the January likely to force the Government to in- deadline for introducing the new PR voke the Parliament Act and see the voting system for the June Euro

One Lords observer said this fees and speed-camera fines to In what may be the final chapter | week: "Carrying on this debate payable. But if the owner retains in a long-running Lords-Commons according to its original timetable ment to take action to close the some benefit in the property, the tussle, the new Tory leader in the would have bored the House rigid, and the Tories would have had a lot of brickbats."

> years after making the gift, dying in a closed list system of proportional agreed at a meeting on Monday party chairman Michael Ancrain If the amendment is carried in and other members of the shadow

The "reasoned amendment" voices the Opposition's view that cause they "end the historic right of the British people to choose the candidates they wish to be elected".

The bill provoked fierce controthe party as a continuation of its | versy in the last session of Parliaclosed list system five times. The Government brought the bill back in the new session of Parlia-

have already rushed the measure

collect, from wheel-clamping rail operators' licensing fees. IANE BLOOD, the woman

billionaire trademinister,

13-15 is becoming pregnant, according to official figures.

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ralled "Day of National Unity"

Enochet's extradition and trial in

pain would undermine, it was an

imposed solution, which Pinochet

hoped would stick but which has

The experience of Chile's neigh-

hours in making the transition from

dictatorship to democracy shows that

Personality plays a significant part

is largely thanks to the energy,

drive and brutality of this one man

that Chile's transition to democracy

has been more difficult than those

of its South American neighbours.

Argentina and Brazil, though it

hasn't been easy there, especially in

flaza de Mayo still cry for justice.

All three of the continent's

military at some point in the sixties

war, they were only loosely related

to the rivalry between the United

states and the Soviet Union, despite

Washington's backing for the mill-

tary. Communist parties in Argen-

tina and Brazil were tiny. In Chile,

and seventies. Although their coups

Argentina where the mothers of the

in the process of disengagement. It

been contested from the start.

### Let reason be the judge

HE AMERICAN people can be forgiven for feel-I ing like extras in a Hammer horror movie. In | will be difficult and the penalties for breaching the November they thought they had finally slain the | rules, if only by a few days, will be controversial. vampire of impenchment by the simple expedient | But it is far better that pioneering research like this of electing more Democrats than Republicans in | is governed by definite rules than that it goes ahead the mid-term elections. Now they realise they | - as it surely will - uninhibited. The Government failed to drive a stake through its heart. While they | is wise to keep the ethics marching almost in pace were toasting the success of President Clinton in | with the technology. somehow eluding the demon's fury, the monster rose from his mid-term grave. The zomble impeachment process has kept on walking: undead, and still lethal.

Washington to banish the spectre, or surrender to depression may emerge from genetic engineering it. The House of Representatives was expected to research. At the moment we can dismiss human vote on four articles of impeachment, the first time | cloning as a serious problem. Reproduction by sexit has faced such a task since 1868. There is, as assorted congressmen never tire of saying, no more solemn duty that could have befallen them. short of declaring war. Their actions may overturn a national election, reversing the stated will of the people — no small thing in a nation whose founding belief is that "we the people" are sovereign.

ciary committee detail serious charges: multiple | would have happened without being planned. The | those great human rights defenders, | document that matters to American acts of perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of stopping point is still the brain — but in the end | China, Iran and Saudi Arabia, simply | cans is their own constitution power. As if that were not bleak enough, the presi- that may simply be the most complicated piece of | doesn't. Thirty-eight US states have dent has narrowed his own chances of reprieve by the genetic Lego set that goes by the name of death penalty statutes, and 350 peo- monopoly on rights narcissism. failing to win over the wavering Republican moder- human being. It is difficult to make sense of a voy- ple since 1990 have been shot, ates, perhaps 15 or so members who might have | age of discovery when we don't know what lies at switched to Mr Clinton's side. They said they the end. If all it really takes to cure hundreds of needed to hear the president drop his trademark | thousands of sufferers of Parkinson's disease is an legalisms and admit not just that he erred, but that | injection of nerve cells grown in a laboratory dish, he did indeed lie under oath. If he admits that and | then it would be a brave person who could honestly accepts his own responsibility, these Republicans | denounce that as immoral — or even unnatural. say, then they don't need to prosecute. But when Mr Clinton appeared before the cameras last week it was only to bite his lip and confess that "I gave into my shame". No admission of perjury. In Israel he repeated that refusal, saying he could not confess to something he didn't do.

Perhaps desperation will force the president to change that line, even if it may lay him open to criminal prosecution as a private individual once he leaves office. That would be a great personal sacrifice, but if it saves his country from a prolongation of this ordeal then it might be worth it.

Still, the burden cannot rest on Mr Clinton alone. Congress has seen its own dignity badly damaged in these past two months. Impeachment is meant to be a solemn, deliberative process, akin to a court weighing a question of liberty. Instead, it has been conducted under the usual rules of partisan trench warfare. While the Watergate hearings were distinguished by their degree of bipartisanship — with Republicans balefully turning on their own president - the Zippergate votes on the Judiciary committee have run entirely on party lines. Indeed, it is a travesty that, in a country that made its distaste for impeachment all too clear in last month's elections, the milder option of a vote of censure was not even available to the House thanks to Republican obstinacy.

### In need of brave new ethics

ling questions of scientific ethics ever set and it has probably got it right though of its and the Republic. A deal on those institution in the Rome conference on the Malaysians insist that their vulneritate. has probably got it right — though of its nature we | tions seems within reach before Christmas — and won't truly know for many years to come. A work- that will thrust the onus back on the IRA. Now we | national tribunal, it stood apart from ing group of the Human Genetics Advisory | have agreed all this, unionists will say, why can't Commission and Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority has recommended that the UK government ban the cloning of humans, but that it authorise — for very precise purposes new research using cloning techniques into human embryos. If endorsed by the Government it could lead to a revolution, allowing replacement skin, muscle, and even nerve tissue to be nurtured in the laboratory. The greatest short-term potential is in disorders such as Parkinson's or Alzheimer's where brain cells are lost that could in future be treated by growing replacement nerve cells in cul-

decide where to draw the line. It can't play God, so it has played pragmatist instead. To permit the cloning of a very young embryo is permissible, but more is not. There will be those who will argue that if 14 days is OK, then why not 20 days or more, just as people debate how long a pregnancy can last before abortion is wrong. Monitoring such research The trouble is that the technology won't stop.

Tissue engineers have already grown football fields

of skin — to be used to wrap around victims of burns. It may soon be possible to grow your own presents a final chance for heart bypass. The cure for illnesses such as manic ual activity is more efficient as well as more enjoyable. But as research progresses the ethical problems will be magnified. If it becomes possible in future, as well it might, to manufacture new organs or parts of bodies, then pressure from patients may force further changes. And if it ever stituent parts of the body, then human cloning

### Nobel laureates' elusive prize

T'S EASY to become blase about the extraordinary odyssey that has been played out in the Northern Ireland of 1998. We have witnessed so much drama from Ulster this year that we've probably become a little jaded. Last week the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, held a private meeting | West" speaks with one voice on with Bill and Hillary Clinton: it barely made the pa- human rights. Increasingly, Europe pers. Still, few could fail to be moved by the scenes | and Canada say one thing on human in Oslo as the SDLP leader, John Hume, and the | rights, abortion rights, land-mines, leader of the Ulster Unionists, David Trimble, stood | adoption of International human side by side, each clutching the medal that places | rights conventions, and the US govthem in the pantheon of statesmen, the club of Nobel Peace Prize laureates. Both spoke of the | And liberal US citizens - many of women and men who truly deserved the award, those who had shown the "quiet heroism" that wins no prizes and little glory.

Those who wanted the mood to stay upbeat were probably disappointed that Mr Trimble chose to remind the Norwegian audience - and the 500 million others said to be watching on television about some of the obstacles still ahead.

"It may seem strange that we receive the reward of a race run while the race is still not quite fin- rights documents into US law is disished." he said, referring to the incomplete busi- tinctively un-Western. It is the only ness of disarmament. This has been a recurrent country, apart from Somalia, that being culturally sensitive. Muslims unionist complaint. We are about to hear it much | has not ratified the UN Convention more loudly, as progress advances on the estab- on the Rights of the Child, and it Hishment of the executive that will run Northern | took 40 years to sign and ratify the Ireland and on the cross-border bodies that will | Genocide Convention.

the paramilitaries hand in some guns at least? Such a demand sounds reasonable, but it might | US citizens. When the next Lieunot be wise. The special and secret IRA convention held this month was resolutely opposed to any compromise on decommissioning. The military men continue to regard the handover of weapons as a US military tribunal. The claim that surrender - the one action no army can countenance. Sinn Fein sources insist that Mr Adams has be subject to international jurisdictaken the republican movement much further than anyone thought possible, by persuading it to accept

an effectively partitionist settlement. Those who hanker for peace need to accept that | closest friends. prospects — that could enrich and prolong the lives of millions — and at the other end with the macabre prospect of cloning an entire human being, it was always going to be difficult for the committee to move as the prize that it is, without demanding the

## Keeping an old flame burning brightly

Michael Ignatieff

AST WEEK the Canadian gov-Governor of the State of Texas to halt the execution of a Canadian citizen on death row in a Texas jail. The details of the case are less interesting than the simple fact that two Western countries, both proud their human rights record and heritage, found themselves embroiled a blazing row over human rights in the very week of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration

Like more than 100 nations. Canada sees the death penalty as a "cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment". The United States, like gassed or given lethal injections.

Some of these judicial victims are | find it especially difficult to accept foreign nationals, who in many that they have to submit to intercases were not accorded their rights — under the Vienna Convention to seek help from their consulate or | an international rights body poring embassy. The Canadian defendant over the dreadful details of Bloods was denied these rights, and his | Sunday, any more than the Canadi lawyers claim that had he been able ans would wish foreign observers to get Canadian help, he might have inspect their Indian reservations. been able, if not to prove his inno- Australians would certainly want ing evidence that would save him | ment of Aborigines. In practice, howfrom execution. The US signed up to the Vienna Convention, but accept that signing up to inter-Texas argues that it is not obliged to observe its provisions.

What the case illustrates is how wrong it is to assume that "the ernment increasingly says another. whom are passionate international human rights activists, appalled by their own country's violation of international norms — say some-

It is not just that the US government disagrees with its Western partners about the death penalty. Its record of incorporating international rights illustrate another crucial

its Western partners in refusing to marriage choice provisions of the accept the court's jurisdiction over Universal Declaration is held to be the inclustrial sector, rapid urbanisaturn up, the US wants to be sure he stried not at The Hague, but by a military tribunal. The claim that a against humanity should not

quick accusations of US hypocris are the best way to parry criticism of their own abysmal human rights ... 21 records. But in accusing the West of foisting its own standards on the rest of the world, these count fail to appreciate that, as the Deck ration turns 50, Its message is a difficult to digest for the West as it s for non-Western societies. Western "rights narcissism"

iust as fundamental an obstacle Asian authoritarianism. For the US the curse of having immortal exponents of rights language as I fathers of your constitution is that you are convinced you have nothing to learn from anybody else. With let it becomes easy for US politicians to Americans, of course, don't have a

the nations whose legal systems descend from English common law national human rights scrutiny. The British wouldn't be overjoyed to have Amnesty inquiring into their treatever, these societies reluctantly national treaties commits them le make their rights observance some thing more than narcissism.

HE US either refuses to sign up in the first place or refuses to observe the terms of its societies. To say the declaration's the newly independent ones.

Western difficulties with human

an attack on the traditional family US military tribunal. The claim that crimes against humanity should not be subject to international jurisdiction simply because the defendant is American is an argument whose logic escapes even Washington's closest friends.

All this, of course, is a gift to anti-

# A kind of liberation in Latin America

Military men never give up power easily. But why has the process been so difficult in Chile, compared with Argentina and Brazil, asks Jonathan Steele

T WAS only two months before | democratic and politically mobilised

General Augusto Pinochet set | countries in the world, Chile

became one of the most autocratic." off from Santiago on his fateful trin to London. The Chilean Senate, says Georgetown University professor Arturo Valenzuela. le member, was split. Should Pinochet appointed men companies. Although his decree law No 1 of September 11, 1973 claimed the come was designed to "restore institutionality", Pinochet promptly closed down the Congress, the politothers there was no shame in the ical parties, the trade unions and the coup. Pinochet's understanding of Argentina and Brazil were never

first Monday of September, to be sent himself as the great conciliator. launched the Falklands war. There is little truth either in the notion of a "delicate balance" agreed each other in rigid four-year stints in 1990 when the army handed as president, almost as though they were constitutionally elected.

In Chile when the junta was sworn in in 1973 General Pinochet said: "I have no pretension to direct the junta while it lasts. What we will do is rotate". It was a promise he | Argentines now call a culture of im- | laws limiting civilian interference in

contrade Che Guevara chose Bolivia Bolivia

Guerata (abova) lad his iti lated expedition during General René Berrientos Ortunal a presidency. A power struggie between the gigns and left of the emilial forces. one suspected of being subversive. There were no trials. People simply disappeared. In Brazil, with five times the population of Argentina, about 150 people died. In Chile the military killed about 3,000.

The end of military government was most abrupt in Argentina. A plunging economic collapse in the early 1980s as commodity prices fell coincided with the innta's defeat in the Falklands war. After seven years the military lost all public support as well as the stomach to go on. The Argentine military gave

turned it and authorised an inquiry into the military's crimes. Called By contrast, the military juntas in Never Again (Nunca Mas), the report led to demands for trials of all personal dictatorships. The heads of | the guilty. But the new president.

> lies of victims called for www justice against the lower-Alfonsin to promise no more prosecutions. The so-called Full Stop legislation sanctified what many

people were killed as the junta | ments "have used the legal and launched its "dirty war" against any- juridical apparatus of the state to impose a politics of memory which is in fact a politics of forgetting". In Brazil the military stayed in

nower the longest; but its eventual handover and lifting of political restrictions were so gradual that the movement for justice. The worst when civilians regained power, half a generation had passed. The atmo-

In Chile in the early 1980s, when the Argentine and Brazilian military were giving up power, Pinochel consolidated his rule with a new wave tivity by the politicians was harsh. passed an amnesty law in 1978 long In Brazil the generals succeeded | 🖺 📠 II HEN disappointed fami- plated fiddling the count.

Pinochet was staggered by his defeat (despite winning 43 per cent level forturers, a series of attempted 1 of the popular vote), but he ensured army uprisings persuaded President | that the civilian presidency that succeeded him would keep him as commander-in-chief for 10 more years, until 1998. He also strengthened the punity. They point out that amnesty | military budgets and promotions. It Each of the three countries suf- is from the same root as amnesia, was hardly "reconciliation", let fered. In Argentina more than 9,000 | and say that successive govern- | alone a transfer that had been

the armed forces selzed power

lyting Salavdor Atlanda at his

Mardem from Chile", New

Frialet General Mahuel

Constitution of 1980 gave him

Contreres (above), head of Dina,

inbohet's objective; "extirpate



Pinochet: image of omnipotence

ureed after democratic debate Nevertheless, the elected government of President Patricio Aylwin. thority in Argentina, with the first | the notion of "due obedience" exon- might ever relinquish power. But | tion Commission. For fear of junta giving way in 1980 after four | erated junior officers who were just | Pinochet misjudged the mood. In | reprisals from Pinochet and the enpathetic 83-year-old pensioner; he is years to another. This was replaced obeying orders. Only the top leaders 1988 when he organised a referent trenched military establishment, its still an active player in the political in 1981 by a third junta, led by of the three juntas were tried, with dom on whether he could stay on as primary goal was to investigate game, on this occasion trying to pre- General Leopoldo Galtieri, who five found guilty and four acquitted. president, he was so confident he deaths and disappearances, not to would win that he never contem- name names of torturers, killers and those who gave them orders.

The report was highly critical of pursuing human rights violations.

The 1991 report's compilation of the victims' cases did help to adjust the balance. "The realities are always shifting," says Jose Zalaquett, a member of the commission. The transition since 1990 addressed human rights in an imperfect way. but a reasonable one. Our report revealed the truth. It changed the atmosphere and created new sensitivities. Without the report Contreras couldn't have gone to prison."

General Manuel Contreras had headed the notorious intelligence service, Dina, which committed the worst murders, including the assassination of Allende's former foreign minister, Orlando Letelier, in Washington. Another 20 or so people were tried for offences committed after the 1978 amnesty.

Then Pinochet shifted the goalposts back. "The process came to a standstill because of his stubbornness," says Zalaquett. "He was wholly unrepentant and unco-operative. He had an image of omnipotence and impunity which is still so pernicious for the armed forces."

As for that other element in the "delicate balance" argument — the Chilean army — few believe would mount a coup to save Pinochet. Though it has taken longer to get there, it is firmly back in barracks just as it is in Brazil and Argentina. A new generation of officers are in charge who are not implicated in Pinochet's crimes. "The country is no longer polarised. don't see any chance of a new coup," says Zalaquett.

It is now very much a personal battle being waged by Plnochet. He is backed not so much by the army as the nine other senators he appointed to the Senate (about 20 per cent of the membership), who in alliance with Chile's political right seek to block change.

The Chilean government is no longer pressing Pinochet's case for immunity but says he could stand trial at home. For many Chileans the general's enforced solourn in England is already a kind of liberation.

### Armed rule in South America





coup removed President Juan Peron's third wife, who had auceadad him after his death k 1974. Measures imposed secama known as the "Dirty *Nor".* General Leopoido Galiter above) was the last of the Junta

Killed (disappeared): 9,000 Trials: 9 generals, 5 found guilty and 4 ecounted

for his effort to start a guerrilla Causes of the crises in Argentina, between the old landed elites and tion after the second world war, economic arguments over inflation, lariffs and growth, corruption in the national unease over the extent of

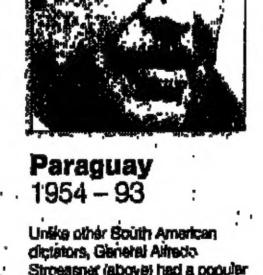


Brazil

ármed forces, with a paneral elected president every four years and a non-autonomous dictatorship at its harshest particularly under General Emil Garrastazu Médici (ebbve).

Reconciliation: Amnual

ECUADOR)



Stroeasner (above) had a populer base. Re-elected president seven times, he ruled under state of slage provision. Polecel opponenia herassad. Overthrown to 1999 by rebal." Maidana, leader of the banner 'Communet party



Amid economic and positical turnoli, armed lorcos closed Congress and established a civiliant-maltery regime insected by Juan Mana Bordeberry (above). Liberalisation from 1981 with parties allowed to operate the

Thomas W. Lippman

HE CLINTON administration

countries and the World

Bank last week in promising

Mearagua and Honduras a massive

new package of debt relief and finan-

The assistance includes more

than \$1.5 billion in new develop-

ment grants, a three-year respite from repayment of bilateral debt, ad-

ditional money to cover payments

due to international banks and a

their foreign debts.

eventual write-off of large chunks of

roads, bridges, homes, electrical

Nicaragua and Honduras, hardest

hit and deepest in debt, will benefit

The total value of the grants,

loans and debt relief is difficult to

evaluate because of numerous vari-

ables in the debt-relief component,

said officials, who estimated the

billion dollars. The debt relief agree-

conditional upon that country

reaching an economic restructuring

agreement with the International

secretary of state Stuart Eizenstat.

most from the agreements.

the ravages of Hurricane Mitch.

### Job losses in City 'could reach 80,000'

Lisa Buckingham and Jill Treanor

City of London, according to leading more. For competitive reasons, the headline job losses which the | these reflect the state of their busi-City's biggest banks and finance houses are admitting.

States firm, is widely used as the benchmark for cutbacks, with its recent move to axe 5 per cent of its servative estimates have started to put the cull at 30,000, or 10 per cent of the City's total workforce.

disguising the scale of jobs attrition | that for every single job cut anby keeping secret the number of | nounced mother takes place behind | ing players.

But human ingenuity may

save us from computer

**Anthony Browne** 

mayhem in 2000, writes

T MAY be banal. It is definitely

threat to the global economy

than the current financial crisis.

The UK Treasury has admitted that

idea how badly. Independent econo-

mists are less cautious: after the mil-

lennium, they warn, the world is

likely to find itself in severe reces-

rencies, debt overhangs or balloon-

ing trade deficits. It is errant pieces

of computer code: the millennium

power stations to fax machines -

affected, nor how much of the prob-

all could stop working.

lem will be solved.

it will hit the economy, but has no

nerdish. But it could be a bigger

temporary and part-time staff they are sacking. the scenes. By his calculations this puts the number of jobs in the City

Under European rules, companies are forced to announce cutbacks if they involve 100 people or is understood that most o the big City firms are laying off Merrill Lynch, the leading United | their temporary employees, whose departure does not have to be made

> Others are letting highly paid dealers and fund managers leave in dribs and drabs so as to avoid being caught by the disclosure rules.

Roger Steare, founder and chairman of Career Vitality, estimates

December 31, 1999.

Bug puts the bite on world recovery

under threat at a figure near 80,000. Indeed, some of these jobs have already disappeared. higher than some of his rivals. Mr Steare says: "No one is counting the

temporary contract workers. In some firms, more than half the staff are temporary. Manpower, the employment agency, reports an upturn in demand in the City for shortterm workers, suggesting firms are

seeing contract workers as a way of

giving themselves flexibility The trend has been particularly coinciding with the financial market turbulence which has caused such damage to the profitability of lead-

One senior investment banker lamented that one cruel aspect of the current City shake-out is that few of those now losing their jobs will ever work in the Square Mile again. The pace of change in some of the finance world is such that even the briefest absence from the dealing rooms can leave traders

\$70 billion union between the pharmaceuticals firms Zeneca and Astra caps a record year for mergers and the first 11 months of 1998, \$2,241 billion worth of deals were clinched - smashing the \$1,373 billion record for all of last year. Corporate financiers predict that

the wave of activity will continue "Our best bet is that next year will be another record," said Gary Dugan, European equity strategist at the investment bank J P Morgan.

Last week's announcement of a

disarray after some producers rejected calls for a halt to exgency measure at a meeting of Persian Gulf oil exporters in

LECTRONICS group GEC could form the third leg of the planned European defence and aerospace group, codenamed Euroco, A three-way partnership with British Aerospace and Germany's Dasa would form the core of a consortium which could include French, Spanish, Italian and Swedish companies, with the aim of challenging American domination of the defence and civil aviation sectors.

OLLS-ROYCE and acro-enfor as many as 100 Bocing

reeling from the sliding oil plans to slash more jobs, write off billions of dollars of assets and put chemical businesses and refineries up for sale as part of its blueprint for reshaping the company for the 21st century.

LUNGING jewellery demand in Japan and Southeast Asia has wiped nearly a third off world gemstone sales, the De Beers group said.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

57.48-67.58 10.60-10.61 9.3448-9.3537 13.55-13.67

The bug's effect abroad could hit brought down could put wide Britain in more straightforward put out of action could have big con- many, are far less advanced in solving the problem. In Japan, the "Earlier in the year, Ford UK lost | financial system is near collapse anyway, and preparations are way | E NERGY company Shell,

The antidote to all this gloun could be the most severe way indus- | could be something far simpler: have so far been confounded by im-Even if UK companies solve all | proved agricultural productivity, their own bugs, they will still be vul- | better oil-extraction technology and cope. Alison Cottrell, chief interna- computers go, small companies in

The Organisation for Economic millennium hour strikes. Edward mist Leo Doyle at Dresdner Klein- are vulnerable — and they are now ple are resilient and adapt well to Ms Flower, herself a director of a minimise overall macroeconomic

Alan Wilson of consultancy Oxford Economic Forecasting has studied the impact of the bug, and predicts that it will depress economic growth by only 0.3 per cent. goes off, the UK economy will not es of UK plant and machinery is vul- supplies towards the end of 1999. We were reassured by looking at some of the other disruptions "The three-day week in the sevenin 2000 more pronounced as compa- ities had a remarkably small effect on GDP, and Canada quickly got back to normal after the ice storms

There is probably only one way to sweden escape a millennium recession. Ms Switzerland Cottrell suggests: "Go to live and PTRE100 Bisare Index down 167,2 at 3676.7, FTRE 500 on the Christian calendar - you'll lades down 148.2 at 4783.4. Gold up \$0.75 at \$256.50

GUARDIAN WEEK!

December 20 100

HE Bank of England stepped up efforts to steer the UK economy off the rocks of recesthe third month in a row, to 6.25 per cent, a half-point cut which won widespread acclaim from dustry, the City and governmen

FFORTS by Opec to pum up the price of oil were in ports. Libya proposed the emer Cairo after oil prices slumped to a 12-year low in trading. In real terms oil, at less than \$10 a bar rel. is at its cheapest since 1973.

> The steps were announced as leaders of five Central American countries, including the presidents a series of meetings in Washington disigned to secure long-term help to overcome not only the storm damage but the endemic poverty that has afflicted the region for generations and magnified the suffering caused by the hurricane. Mitch, which swept across central America last month, killed an

a gine partner BMW said they stood to gain up to \$600 million from Trans World Airlines' order 717s. But struggling Boeing's contract to supply 50 of its 106seat jets, with the option for another 50, was overshadowed by TWA's decision to become the world's first airline to place a firm order to buy Airbus's rival short-haul jet, the A318.

price and criticisms of its management bureaucracy, unveiled

19.60-19.62 19.47-19 49 87.09-57.18 2.5950-2.5982 2.5350-2.5378 10.62-10 53 9.28-9 29 13.06-13.07 12.79-12.80 1.1217-1.1229 1.1134-1.1158 2,769-2.762 2,740-2,744 194.61-194.67 197.61-197.73 3.1405-3.1433 3.1208-3.1228 3.2283-3.2432 3.1567-3.1559 13.09-13.11 12.58-12.37 285.78-286.09 283.87-284.23 237.04-237.35 235.65-235.62 13.45-13 47 2.2606-2.2538 2.2665-2.2703 1.6887-1.6877, 1.6520-1.6528 1.4189-1.4208 1.4114-1.4190



A Honduran women sits among belongings she managed to salvage after Hurricane Mitch FROTO SCOTT DALTON

and Honduras were struggling ista leftist government. Under Paris Clinton administration officials under a burden of hard-currency. Club rules, Nicaragoa is obliged to lendorsed legislation proposed last external debt that diverted scarce resources. According to the private relief agency Oxfam International. Nicaragua's total foreign debt about \$6.1 billion, and debt service payments last year consumed more than half of government revenue. In Honduras, according to Oxfam, foreign debt totals \$4.1 billion and con-

sumes a third of state revenue. The agreements provide for a overall aid would amount to several three-year moratorium on debt repayment to members of the soment for Honduras, for example, is called Paris Club of creditor nations, which comprises most of the industrialized world, and for the eventual write-off of most of the debt.

Nicaragua also owes large amounts to Libya, Cuba, and other

from Turkmenistan to Turkey via

During the past year, Presi-

dent Clinton and other senior

repeatedly urged Turkey and

U.S. government officials have

other Central Asian nations to

endorse the corridor and shun

Iran, which is accused of sup-

"If they are building a line to

Iran, that's problematical," one

U.S. official said of Turkey. He

noted that Congress has passed

on foreign companies that invest

plete, according to Julia Nanay,

an oil analyst at the Washington-

Turkish officials say they still

support the Eurasian corridor,

but Washington says the Turks

have not provided an explana-

the pipeline to Iran.

tion of the decision to complete

based Petroleum Finance Co.

legislation imposing sanctions

porting terrorism.

Even before Mitch, Nicaragua | allies of Nicaragua's former Sandin- | would also support this fund. insist that those creditors accede to | week by Sen. Bob Graham, De agreed to by the western lenders. | the fund U.S. officials said. "Nicaragua has the leverage," one said. "They could

The Central American countries nounced creation of a Central American Trust Fund to cover those Italy, Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland have pledged to contribute.

Eizenstat said the United States | has already contributed.

U.S. officials said there was no way Nicaragua and Honduras could recover and rebuild without a massive infusion of aid. Already among the poorest countries in the hemiing loans to multilateral institutions | sphere, they faced declining export earnings from lost crops and a need equipment, vehicles and other

> Eizenstat said the United States would contribute \$120 million in direct aid beyond the \$250 million is emergency assistance Washington

Canadians Call on NATO To Rethink Nuclear Policy

Steven Pearlstein in Toronto

ANADA'S Parliament took anweapons in NATO arsenals.

nuclear powers of clinging to a Cold War had ended.

In its list of recommendations, the sideration of separating NATO's nu- ready for its own usc. clear warheads from the missiles and bombs on which they are deployed, they would ever be used.

Uother step last week toward confrontation with the United States over the inclusion of nuclear Following a two-year study and a

divisive Internal debate, the Foreign ing the United States and other to challenge key allies on the issue. War mentality long after the Cold

The report gives added political support to efforts by Canada's longer have any military use. dovish foreign minister, Lloyd had been given impetus from Ger- | nuclear doctrine.

many at a NATO foreign ministers meeting in Brussels.

But the three nuclear powers in NATO - the United States, Britain weapons are an effective deterrent against aggression. And even within the Canadian government, Axworthy faces opposition from Defense Minister Art Eggleton and other Commons released a report accus- cabinet colleagues who are reluctant

The committee report criticizes the United States for talking out of both sides of its mouth on the question of nuclear nonproliferation renouncing the first use of nuclear | Pakistan to renounce nuclear weapons. It also urged serious con- | weapons, while keeping them at the

It also declared that nuclear deterrence is an outdated and dangeras a way of reducing the chance that | ous concept. And it cited evidence from defense planners that battlefield, or tactical, nuclear weapons no

William Graham, the chairman of Axworthy, to prod, embarrass and | the committee, said his aim was cajole the United States and the "not to start a huge dispute with the major powers to reduce their United States," but simply to ennuclear arsenals. That effort already | courage a serious review of a NATO

### Censure Rather Than Impeach

**EDITORIAL** 

miserably. It has approved four articles of impeachment, of which two are ill-defined and two are unsubstantiated. It also has arro to deprive the full House of any alternative to impeachment

President Clinton committed grave offenses and aggravated them by refusing to acknowledge either the offenses themselves or jury articles reported by the committee are both, in our judgment, factually accurate. But in this case, impeachment is an overly broad response. And even here, the committee has dodged its duty by failing to specify the statewere, in its view, "periurious, false, and misleading," No one the same favorable restructuring | Florida, to provide \$25 million for | should be required to stand trial either in court or in the Senate without being informed of the specific allegations against him.

The obstruction-of-justice article remains factually unproven. While the charges are serious and the evidence supplied by got help there too. World Bank | to import food, building materials, | Starr raises questions that cannot be dismissed, the committee has not done the required investigation to substantiate these allegations.

The abuse of power article, likewise, is a mistake. Before reporting it the committee stripped it of some of its most offensive stretches. It now alleges that Mr. Clinton lied in his sworn answers to some of the 81 questions the committee posed him. Those answers were contemptuous, but they were carefully drafted to avoid making new factual assertions. They are, rather, largely composed of citations to prior testimony. While the answers are evasive and often non-responsive, the committee has not and France - argue that nuclear | made a persuasive case that they are periurious.

Failing to send the Democratic censure resolution to the floor is the committee's final, crucial mistake. Committee Republicans have spent a good deal of time deriding censure as unconstitu-Constitution prevents a censure resolution, as long as Congress does not seek to impose a fine or panel called on NATO to consider | urging countries such as India and | other material punishment on the president.

Censure would not be a perfect outcome, but it would offer an intermediate step between giving the president a pass on his misconduct and impeaching him for an offense that is mitigated by its distance from his public and official responsibilities. That censure marks a viable third way may be why some Republicans wish to avoid it. The new House leadership should allow members to vote ou a reasonable alternative to impeachment.

EN

Yardini, chief economist of Dresd- | wort Benson estimates that even if ner Bank in New York, reckons the | all bugs in all companies are eradichance of a millennium recession is | cated, the bursting of the computer | bank, HSBC, predicts the bug will per cent less in 2000 than in 1999. reduce economic output by 0.5 per cent in 2000, and warns: "Whether or | bugs will be easily beaten. Doyle | not the millennium bomb actually predicts that even if only 15 per cent firms are likely to start stockpiling cape unscathed."

England officials have now turned their minds to the problem - with disturbing results. In effect, they affected, but have no idea how badly But not all government bodies

are burying their heads in the sand.

Gwynneth Flower, head of the mil-

nerable, and 80 per cent of those | But this in itself could make a reces-After a whirlwind of speculation in problems are solved, output will still slon more likely: it will boost growth economies have faced," he said. the City, Treasury and the Bank of be reduced by 2 per cent — easily next year and make the slowdown enough to trigger a recession.

It is also clear that not all the

admit the economy will be adversely 'Many developing countries, where much of -so they're ignoring the problem. | the software is pirated and where they can't afford to solve the bugs, are vulnerable - and | work in an economy that isn't based lennium bug taskforce Action 2000, they are now the West's just-in-time suppliers' be laughing." — The Observer

is advising every household in The question is not just how | nies use up stocks rather than plac-The culprit is not devaluing cur- Britain to hoard two weeks' emerwidely the bug will strike, but ling more orders.

gency food rations in the run-up to where. A power station that is She also warns that up to 3 mil- swathes of industry out of action. | ways. Many of this country's trading bug. Its effect is simple: the computation jobs could be lost because of But even smaller companies being partners, such as Japan and Gerers affected won't be able to judge the bug. "Two-thirds of small and the difference between the years | medium-sized companies aren't

2000 and 1900. Any that rely on | doing enough. If they don't take addates are quite likely to crash: sys- equate action, we estimate 25 per | three days' production of the Fiesta, tems from banking to lifts, air traffic | cent of them could go to the wall. costing it £18 million, just because a behind. Widespread computer discontrol to life support machines. Up to 200,000 companies could find | door-lock manufacturer in Germany | ruption could bring economic disasthemselves out of business." went bust," says Ms Flower. "The ter The millennium will affect the | ripple effect along the supply chain | One thing is certain: the date the | economy in different ways, all of bug will strike. Everything else is which may be minor, but all of try is affected." With so many com- human inventiveness. Earlier predicguesswork. Across the world, hun- which will act in concert to boost panies dependent on just-in-time tions of catastrophe, from Malthus's dreds of billions of dollars - some growth in 1999 and depress it in deliveries, any supply disruption 1798 warning about famine to the estimate it at as much as \$750 bil- 2000. The combined effect of the could have widespread conse- seventies fear of energy shortages,

lion -- is being paid to computer ex- | many small influences is likely to be | quences. perts to solve the problem. But no | a sharp slowdown in 2000, irrespecone knows how much of industry is | tive of how hard the bug bites. The huge sums of money being | nerable to how other countries | improved energy efficiency. If their spent on solving the problem will Nor does anyone know, in today's reach a peak in 1999, but largely un- tional economist at stockbroker particular will be able to go back to inter-connected economy, how one wind throughout 2000: the com- Paine Webber, warned: "Many de pen and paper. crashing computer could send puter software industry, having veloping countries, where much of shock waves throughout industry. grown so spectacularly, is sure to the software is pirated and where Co-operation and Development says: No one will know for sure until the suffer a massive collapse. Econo they can't afford to solve the bugs, Past experience suggests that peo-

the West's just-in-time suppliers." company that does business with effects." now 70 per cent. Britain's biggest | bubble will mean growth will be 0.5 | the Far East, said: "Any company that sources supplies from mainland

China needs to look at alternatives." To protect themselves, many

earlier this year."

### Turks Ignore U.S. Wishes And Choose Iran Pipeline

David B. Ottaway

TURKEY has decided to defy L the Clinton administration by completing a natural gas pipeline from Iran, according to U.S. and Turkish officials.

Although the U.S. government As vigorously promoted pipeline routes in energy-rich Central Asia that bypass Iran, Turkey's pressing need for gas means that Ankara is willing to ignore the wishes of its NATO ally in Washington, Turkish officials said.

A 188-mile segment of the Pipeline is likely to be completed next year and is designed to carry gas from Iran to the eastem Turkish city of Erzurum. The pipeline is particularly

in Iran's energy sector. But Turkish officials note that they are not investing directly in Iran, which is building its own pipeline from the Iranian city of Tabriz to the Turkish border. That pipeline is about two-thirds com-

sensitive because the Clinton administration last year proposed an alternative "Eurasian transportation corridor" to discourage Turkey from buying Iranian gas. Turkey subsequently sus-

pended a deal with Iran and endorsed the corridor proposal, which would include pipelines from Turkey to Azerbaijan and

### Puerto Rico Voters Rebuff Statehood

Puerto Rican voters dealt a stiff rebuke to the statehood movement last Sunday, with a majority marking ballots for other options. The big spoke clearly today have announced wealth" 46 years ago, more than the above" as a vote for the status winner: "none of the above."

The island's pro- and anti-statehood parties both immediately declared victory, launching into festive celebrations with dancing and merengue music at their respective party headquarters.

The governing New Progressive | was the only way to end Puerto | Party, angry that its definition of | paigned for it. Party (NPP), which called the nonbinding referendum and spent millions of dollars campaigning for statehood, rejected the "none of the above" protest vote, which it denounced as meaningless and fit only for "the trash can."

The NPP argued that statehood had triumphed decisively over three other status options: the existing territorial status under U.S. soverelgnty, a more autonomous "free association" under a treaty with Washington, and independence.

With all the votes counted, "none of the above" led the field with 50.2 percent, followed by statehood with 46.5 percent and independence with 2.5 percent, according to the the State Elections Commission. Commonwealth and "free association" each had less than

The opposition Popular Democratic Party, which mobilized support for "none of the above," said the plebiscite represented a clear rejection of statehood and its main champion, Gov. Pedro Rossello.

Rossello nevertheless insisted on claiming a mandate for joining the

This territory's future relation the future of Puerto Rico," he said at his party headquarters. In its territory's future relation this territory's future relation.

The future of Puerto Rico," he said after a celebratory fireworks display after a celebratory fireworks display at his party headquarters. In its campaign for statehood, his party the future of Puerto Rico," he said claimed for Spain by Columbus in 1493 and seized by the United States in 1898—while permanently of statehood, which it fears would ship with the United States, outspent all the opposition parties preserving U.S. citizenship and combined by a ratio of nearly five to benefits.

> the defeat of commonwealth," said | 75 percent of the island's 2.2 million Carlos Romero Barcelo, Puerto Rico's pro-statehood representative in the U.S. Congress. "The colony has come to an end."

In the third such referendum eligible voters turned out to cast

hood in a dead heat with "none of

rob Puerto Rico's culture and

Interviews with voters indicated "The vast majority of those who | since the island became a "common- | that many were marking "none of scribed the current relationship Pre-plebiscite polls showed state- with the United States. That option The government had argued that | the above." The traditionally pro- portrayed Puerto Rico in starkly entering the union as the 51st state | commonwealth Popular Democratic | colonial terms, and no party cam-



No go . . . Supporters of the opposition Popular Democratic Party, which campaigned against spoke, and they said statehood is statehood, celebrate in front of their headquarters in San Juan PHOTOGRAPH, JOHN RILEY ure in Mexico.

### Tearful End To Salinas Murder Trial

Molly Moore in Mexico City

THE MOST celebrated trial Mexico's modern history ended last week with the brother of a former president tearfully professing his innocence in the murder of a high-ranking official.

The murder trial of Raul Salinas de Gortari has both fascinated and repulsed the nation for two years with its allegations of corruption, crime and betrayal at the highest levels of the Mexican government.

Raul Salinas is accused of orchestrating the 1994 shooting of Jose Francisco Ruiz Massieu, a leader of Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party and the ex-husban

"Like all men, I believe I have security Almoloya de Juarez prison on the outskirts of the capital. "But I must say that among them there exist no crimes."

The judge in the case, which now spans 42 bound volumes of testimony and 130,000 pages of evidence, said he will render his verdict in January.

Salinas' brother, former president Carlos Salinas de Gortari — once the darling of the international busishortly after his brother's arrest in February 1995 and lives in selfmposed exile in Ireland.

Carlos Salinas has not been charged with any crime and has denied knowledge of wrongdoing by any members of his family, but remains a reviled and ridiculed fig- [8]

at least those who remain optimists, they expect to recapture it someday.

led, Baghdad will recover. Today the city is a place where exist with a lively local stock mar-

caust victims paid once for being Jewish. Now, in a way, they or their heirs are being asked to others would in the same situs. type, they adopt a worse one

said during closing arguments in | The Martyrs Monument: Construction is underway on several extrav Baghdad, but the city's inhabitants live hand-to-mouth under crippling economic sanctions

Today, there is little evidence of

been rebuilt, the streets have been

gether well enough for the city to

UNICEF mission in Iraq. "It was int-

ties have been reconstructed.

## Poverty Amid the Palaces

oward Schneider in Baghdad

HE DAY he saw this city's graceful 14th of July Bridge | city's power grid. L lying in the Tigris River, destroyed by American missiles dur-Abdul Razak Abdul Wahid was rebroken and struggling.

"I thought of all the lovers who function. Major government facilimet on that bridge," said Wahid. who wrote a poem to commemorate old people weep on that bridge, and all I could think was, what was the benefit of destroying it?"

sometimes impossible to find an

Like the bird in Wahid's poem, portant to show that this city had the power to rehabilitate . . . They flight. Built by the Muslim caliph aldid it brilliantly." Mansur in the 8th century, the leg-Some may question the governendary Iraqi capital, once a center of world culture and trade, has sufthrough disastrous wars with Iran reduced to shining shoes and other and the U.S.-led coalition that drove iraqi forces from Kuwnit, followed by eight years of crippling international trade sanctions. Residents, or underway on the latest of several massive palaces built in the capital refer to the city's past glory and say since the war. Heavy equipment is There was war and then sanctions, and everything is frozen world's largest house of worship. In the spot where a concrete communilisher and editor of the governmentcations building was destroyed dur-English-language newspaper. "We dominates the Baghdad skyline, are trying to come to terms with complete with a posh revolving this situation. We know that it is something artificial. It is not a real- children's rides at the base.

ly. Once we have the embargo From the observation deck, the city's main monuments — the vaulted, oval Tomb of the Unknown gloomy economic circumstances co- Soldier and the nearby Victory of inadequate maintenance have left ket, new cases and coffeehouses; blades slicing the sky and resting the art, riddled with leaks, U.N. offiwhere a focused effort to restore atop helmets taken from dead Iran- cials say. Because of the power out-War-damaged infrastructure is oc- ian soldiers — are well lit and obvi- ages, and the subsequent loss of industry, U.S. corporations have Curring alongside indulgent invest- ous. So are the large swaths of pressure, sewage can contaminate largely succeeded in playing down ments in new palaces and public art; darkness in neighborhoods afflicted the drinking water supply — a their connections with the Nazis. where a people accustomed to free | with power outages. health care, education and other benefits of oil wealth have adjusted

rides are a swirl of festive color. The disease in the city. loa time when wages have been depark itself is deserted.

falued to almost nothing and it is struggling bird is a cracked wind- and after scale models of buildings | tional Archives in Washington in an Ministry and communical spare parts that people can find and myself. We continue to live."

local convention center and the ling exhaust pipes or other problems too expensive to fix.

Baghdad's electricity.

The war was a disaster for the city's power supply. As at the other "Baglidad within two years had stations, the Doura plant was blan-Philippe Hefflack, head of the out transformers and left Baglidad

ment's priorities, however. While was repaired sufficiently to begin begging children are inescapable, generating electricity again, he said, and middle-class Iragis have been but it has never been able to run at more than half of its 640-megawatt 2 million guest workers from Egypt | challenge, given the lack of spare

"It's too much," Gazi said. "You

get crazy sometimes." To make do with diminished capacity, Gazl said, he and other electricity managers in Baghdad rotate blackouts around the city, taking neighborhoods and businesses offline for anywhere from three to six hours daily, and sometimes longer.

In some respects, life in Baghdad s defined by the daily struggle between the abnormality imposed by sanctions and the urge to live as it

ple, is a dubious proposition. Years | production in their plants at home. phenomenon reflected in the high

Perhaps a better symbol of con- | day Nahamy, director of the Museum | Millstein and Hausfeld, who spent

### Lawsuits Allege U.S. Car Firms Aided Nazi Regime

THREE years after Swiss banks became the target of a furor over their business dealings with companies find themselves embroiled in a similar controversy.

orously denied that they assisted the sidiaries during World War II. But historians and lawyers researching class-action suits on behalf of former ortsoners of war are busy amassing evidence of collaboration by the automakers with the Nazi regime.

The issues at stake for the Ameribeyond the relatively modest sums ing the war, the car companies was also driving trucks manufacestablished a reputation for them- | tured by Ford and Opel — a 100 perselves as "the arsenal of democracy" | cent GM-owned subsidiary — and by transforming their production lines to make airplanes, tanks and trucks for the armies that defeated huge business interests in Nazi Gertions towers — with those of less | afford. But few vehicles are without | many led them, wittingly or unwitobvious strategic value, such as the | broken glass, dented bodies, smok | tingly, to also become "the arsenal

The Ford Motor Co. has mobi-The city survives in much the lized dozens of historians, lawyers the damage. Collapsed bridges have | same way. No one knows that better | and researchers to fight a civil case than Raad Gazi, director of the brought by lawyers, who specialize repaired, and the water and electric- Doura power station, one of three in extracting large cash settlements minded of a wounded bird, its wings ity systems have been patched to- large oil-fired plants that supply from banks and insurance companies accused of defrauding Holo-

"General Motors was far more been rebuilt, after a pounding" dur- | keted with filaments, spewed from | than Switzerland," said Bradford ing the U.S.-led air campaign, said | special U.S. missiles, that shorted | Snell, who has spent two decades in darkness. The station's main largest auto-maker. "Switzerland building and one of its emissions | was just a repository of looted stacks also were hit directly, he funds. GM was an integral part of the German war effort. The Nazis could have invaded Poland and Rus-

not have done so without GM." Both General Motors and Ford insist that they bear little or no rejobs that were once the province of | capacity. Even sustaining that is a | sponsibility for the operations of | scene. A U.S Army report by investiselves to become suppliers of war

materiel to the German army. But documents discovered in German and American archives ture. In certain instances, American managers of both GM and Ford duction at a time when U.S. government documents show they were Drinking the tap water, for exam- administration to step up military

Although some allegations against Sword, composed of four large | the city's water system, once state of | GM and Ford surfaced during 1974

"When you think of Ford, you At the tower's base, the children's | rates of typhold and gastrointestinal | think of baseball and apple pie," said | reporter two years before becoming Miriam Kleinman, a researcher with "Before, we lived well," said Nahi- the Washington law firm of Cohen. Ford on his office wall in Munich." German Eagle.

Both Ford and General Motors declined requests for access to their wartime archives. Ford spokesman John Spellich defended the company's decision to maintain husiness Nazi Germany, major American car | ties with Nazi Germany on the grounds that the U.S. government continued to have diplomatic rela-The U.S. car companies have vig- tions with Berlin up until December 1941. GM spokesman John Mueller said that General Motors lost day-to-day control over its German plants in September 1939 and "did not assist the Nazis in any way during World War II."

> When American GIs invaded Eurupe in June 1944, they did so in jeeps, trucks and tanks manufactured by the Big Three motor com panies in one of the largest crash militarization programs ever undertaken. It came as an unpleasunt surprise to discover that the enemy flying Opel-built warplanes.

When the U.S. Army liberated the Ford plants in Cologne and Berlin. Adolf Hitler. They deny that their | they found destitute foreign workers confined behind barbed wire and company documents extolling the "genius of the Fuehrer," according



Henry Ford: admired the Nazis

to reports filed by soldiers at the their German subsidiaries, which gator Henry Schneider dated Sepcontrolled 70 percent of the German | tember 5, 1945, accused the German car market at the outbreak of war in | branch of Ford of serving as "an ar-1939 and rapidly retooled them- senal of Nazism, at least for military vehicles" with the "consent" of the U.S. parent company.

Ford spokesman Spellich described the Schneider report as "a show a much more complicated pic- | mischaracterization" of the activities of the American parent company went along with the conversion of had frequently been kept in the their German plants to military pro- dark by their German subordinates over events in Cologne.

Ford's and GM's relationships still resisting calls by the Roosevelt | with the Nazis goes back to the can car companies competed against each other for access to the lucrative German market. Hitler was an admirer of American mass production techniques and an avid reader of the anti-Semitic tracts penned by Henry Ford.

"I regard Henry Ford as my inspiration," Hitler told a Detroit News the German chancellor in 1933.

Although Ford later renounced his anti-Semitic writings, he retemporary Baghdad than Wahid's of Challenge, a collection of before weeks examining records at the Na- mained an admirer of Nazi Germany, in July 1938, four months The bombing of Baghdad was shield. Despite the economic em- destroyed during the war and subse- attempt to build a slave labor case after the German annexation of Ausamong the more controversial as bargo, the city's cars and trucks and quently rebuilt. I saw my country against the Dearborn, Michigan- tria, he accepted the highest medal Meds of the Persian Gulf War, mix- buses keep running, patched to- devastated completely. We are very based company. You don't think of that Nazi Germany could be to devastated completely. We are very based company. You don't think of that Nazi Germany could be to devastated completely. We are very based company. You don't think of that Nazi Germany could be to devastated completely. We are very based company. You don't think of that Nazi Germany could be to devastated completely. We are very based company. You don't think of that Nazi Germany could be to devastated completely. We are very based company. military targets — such as the gether with ingenuity and the few strong now. And I don't speak just for Hitler having a portrait of Henry a foreigner, the Grand Cross of the EN

# after the fighting ends.

Thomas W. Lippman

Congolese President Laurent Kabila | tween countries now opposing each | expertise. No, it was not what I will survive the rebellion and re- other inside Congo. main at least the nominal head of vast country.

with no cease-fire at hand, the Clin-

Clinton administration is looking be- erick Chiluba to broker a cease-fire. I said, because often money is a yond a cease-fire to a possible new regional cooperation agreement that would involve peacekeeping | region last month, they did not | been injured deserve compensaand border security, support for carry specific recommendations to tion. But what I would not say democratic political forces inside | end the conflict because "they | although I felt it intensely - is Congo and economic aid to begin | would have been laughed out of | that I would not allow any canard the mammoth task of building Dodge" by African leaders who re- about Jews and money to block roads, schools, power lines and member when their countries were what I thought was an attempt to other essential facilities.

governable," one senior U.S. official attempt to force a deal would have ently. Prominent among them said, "Getting a cease-fire is proba- been inconsistent with the Clinton | are Charles Krauthammer, the bly the easiest piece, in many ways. | administration's policy of fostering | syndicated columnist, and Once they get it, we have to be cooperative relationships among Abraham Foxman, the national ready to consider the longer-term | Africans. things that can knit this back together as a region."

What began in August as an up- lican senators wrote to Secretary of | Washington Post and Foxman in rising in eastern Congo against State Madeleine K. Albright The Wall Street Journal pub-Kabila's rule quickly mushroomed | complaining of the administration's | lished columns decrying what into a regional conflict that involves. | "lack of engagement" in Congo.

#### by State Department count, military forces from nine countries, as well A S THE war in Central Africa as several rebel armies responsible Richard Cohen

A drags through its fifth month | to no government. According to Gayle Smith, the ton administration has concluded senior Africa policymaker on the Landist came to interview me there is little the United States can | White House National Security | while I was on vacation. The subdo to stop it and that Congo will | Council, it has become "the most | ject was the Swiss banking inremain a source of instability long | dangerous conflict ever to have | dustry and Holocaust claims. I taken place on African soil" because | had written some columns on The administration assumes that of the potential for direct conflict be the matter but I had no special

Nevertheless, the administration | right off the bat, it was my ethstate, but that neither he nor any | concluded several weeks ago that | other potential leader will be able to the combatants would not accept a nent Jewish-American. restore order or reconstruct the "made in America" peace plan, and decided instead to support the For that reason, officials said, the efforts of Zambian President Fred matter and if so why? It mattered,

When Smith and Assistant Secre- way of gauging justice. It mattary of State Susan Rice toured the tered because those who have client states, one official said. In ad- get justice. I still feel that way. Congo is "ungoverned and un- dition, senior officials said any U.S. Others, apparently, feel differ-

> This low-key approach has League. In a single day this stirred some criticism. Nine Republication month, Krauthammer in The

# U.S. Sees Congo as Unstable | Keeping Jewish Stereotypes at Bay

T AST summer, a Swiss jourknew that mattered, I was told

nicity. I was to speak as a promi And so, after a while, I was asked about the money: Did it

director of the Anti-Defamation

Krauthammer characterized as

the "unseemly" and "disgraceful" pursuit "of billions in Holocaust guilt money." Foxman

was equally indignant. Yes, there is something unseemly about a bunch of lawyers trolling Eastern Europe for the few remaining Holocaust survivors on whose behalf they can - with near-absolute justifica-

tion - sue everyone in sight. Nor, to grant both writers one more point, does it especially please me that the pursuit of justice in this matter is going to end like some slip on the ice — with a claim, a settlement and a lawyer taking about one third.

But this is the way of the world - not just of Jews and Holocaust settlements. When the tobacco industry makes amends, it's not only because it fears politicians it bought long ago anyway (I'm talking campaign money), but because it looked into the eyes of tort lawyers and saw a coldness and ruthlessness it recognized as the match of its own. These guys, like the tobacco industry

itself, have the shame of a anake. Who then are better suited to taking on European insurance companies and banks who, smiling and always cordial, insisted on death certificates for the poor souls who went into the atmosphere as ash from the Nazi crematoriums? Who better to demand an accounting from companies whose management

in the 1930s and '40s did business as the Nazis wanted? What's more important, there's something perverse for Jews to have their money or

property taken and then have to worry about being called cheap or avaricious for demanding it back. If the demands of Jewish organizations have fostered an increase in anti-Semidsm in Switzerland, then the Swiss ought to look to their own values and not the Jews to theirs. How is it that Jews are cheap for demanding their money back but not, mind you, the Swiss banks for holding onto it until recently?

revival of Shylockian stereotypes". Yes, there is that dange. But it is worse to implicitly honor the stereotype by refraining from doing what others would do as a matter of course — including suing for damages.

An immense crime was committed in Europe, a moral calamity that left a black hole in the middle of the 20th century. Money is the least of it. But money is part of it. Holo-

pay again — a virtual Jewish iss which obliges them not to act as tion. But in avoiding one stereo perpetual victim.

### On the Highways and Byways of Memory

Rafael Campo

THERE IS A WORLD ELSEWHERE By F. Gonzalez-Crussi Riverhead, 209pp. \$23.95

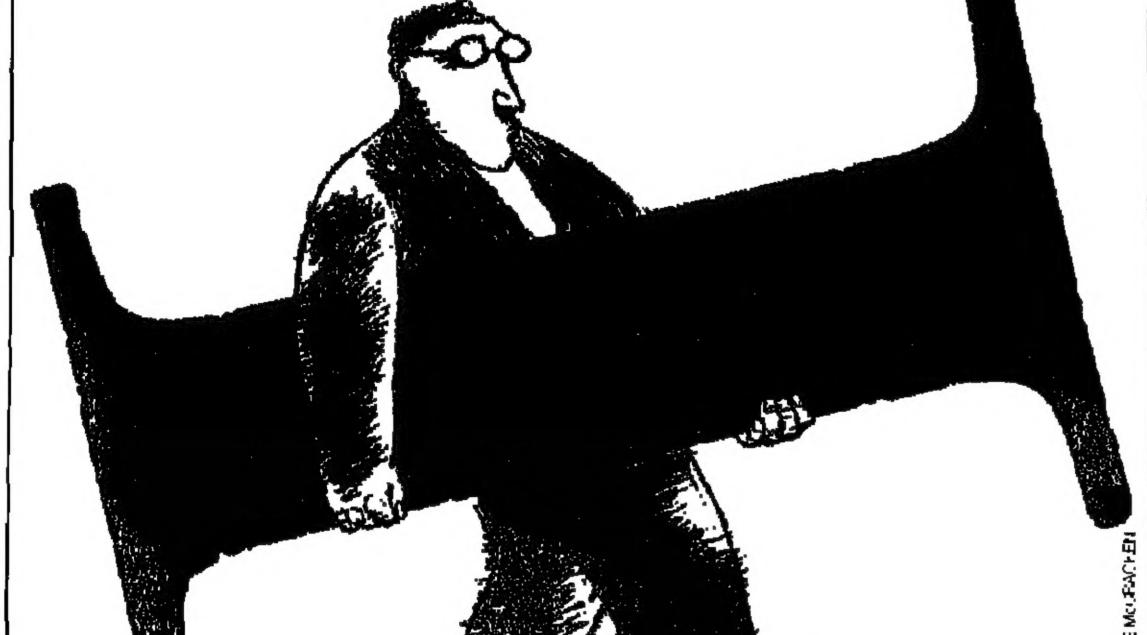
ANY critics have complained about the prolifera-tion of memoirs on the shelves of American bookstores and in our collective consciousness. In a memorably scathing review of Kathryn Harrison's pitiably mis-guided "trash with a capital T" The Kiss (in which she recounts her consensual incestuous relationship with her father), James Wolcott loudly warned, "We're approaching saturation — agony overload."

As if to align himself with those

who've had enough of the painful soul-baring, F. Gonzalez-Crussi, accomplished pathologist and noted natural historian, opens his autobiography with a kind of anatomical disclaimer: a disapproving reflection on the legend of the Roman emperor Nero's evisceration of his mother, after he first ordered her murder, "to see the place where he had come from." Not only is what Nero saw disappointing — the womb, to the world-weary, modern physician's eye, is nothing more than "a muscular viscus, shaped has been flattened in a front-to-back direction" — it is also emblematic of the essential insignificance of individual lives.

cedents that could be shown off our shared humanity. Gonzalez- text comes to have the feeling of so | adversities they face, is a wondrous with pride," Gonzalez-Crussi says of Crussi ultimately seems stranded much silk. That is, until one realizes thing that too often goes uncelehis Mexican kin. "I recall no value somewhere in between. He is a man that what is often being told is an brated; Gonzalez-Crussi is to be apable heirlooms, no marks of worldly who at once recalls his mother's anecdote of astonishing hardship or plauded for commemorating them other) whose European masters triumph in the family, but every- devotion to her impoverished family cruelty — such as the inhuman with aplomb and grace. But perhaps | didn't quite transfer when he can where the blows of poverty, the and dispassionately speaks of his treatment a young seamstress re- even more necessary than record- grated to the United States. The pangs of want, the fierce clawing of father's untimely death from alco-ceives at the hands of a neighbor- ing them is serving them, after the director of Metropolis and M in his misery before which men reel, baf- holic binging. He is a man of great | hood criminal in the Gonzalez- example of William Carlos Williams, fled and beaten; and therefore I be intellect for whom the possibility of | Crussi family pharmacy, where the | our most cherished physicianlieve the simple fact of our survival, empathy remains but an abstract author works alongside his mother author. Perhaps we must dirty our motably Fury. The Big Heat, and of my own survival, must count as | tion, a fascinating kaleidoscope into | to eke out a living in 1950s Mexico | hands, as he did — witness the much as the wealth and high estate | which we can peer. He distances | City. that others flaunt."

wretchedness of the afflicted and oppressed, beware. The life story



about the author's trials and tribular | filled promise. The good doctor's | he relates becomes not a cause of | discovers and presents, elevate the tions but concerns itself instead with | prose is measured and self-assured. | outrage or even pity but rather ana notion of transcendent Man.

For every psychotic Nero, there are many others for whom con- promiseuous mind, unashamed of himself not only from the inconceiv-

replete with allusions to classical other piquant example of the vicissi- | Son is art." texts. Here is a wonderfully lively. I tudes of human nature.

Of course, the dignity and coufronting and engaging the experi- its erudition. The voice attains a rage of those who refuse to be "I see nothing in my early ante- ence of suffering is an awakening to richly spun, mandarin quality; the erased, no matter how virulent the (St. Martin's, \$19.95) most unbearable tale of incest, stare | same caliber as those two early mas Ever the objective, precise ob- inside the most unspeakable of hor-Those who would indulge in solip- able monsters but also from those | server, Gonzalez-Crussi records the | rors, warm against one's own breast sistic self-analysis or self-lacerating whom he could touch and whom he young woman's various humilia- the cold, ugly, stinking feet of the soliloquies, or even in dismay at the might have even reached out to tions; behind his sensitive scales, dying — if we are ever to comprestudiously weighing his aliquots of hend the nature of human suffering, good performances out of an other The book's chief pleasure ironi- powder, he becomes a virtual em- present not at some far-off elseyou are about to read is not really | cally proves to be its greatest unful- | bodiment of justice, just as the story | where but everywhere around us.

TONATHAN RABAN, who won a National Book Critics Circle

Paberback non-fiction Father, Soldier, Son: Memoir of a Platoon Leader in Vietnam. by Nathaniel Tripp (Steerforth, \$14)

December 20 199

W HEN Nathaniel Tripp arrived in Vietnam as an infantry officer in the summer of 1968, he had come there from a house full of ? women. His father, a World War II sailor, had deserted in battle, and he had a platoon of men to lead, and dent Liamine Zeroual. Washington Post's review by Wayne had hinted he would ask another this book summed up Tripp's story as follows: "Numerous Vietnam Wa ens that commentary into a com among lathers and sons and wars. . If a novel is life patterned through art to arrive at truth, then a memor can be a search for patterns in one own life — as if one's own life were. novel. That search, and the subject tive and universal truths the write best memoirs to art. Father, Soldier

Fritz Lang: The Nature of the Beast, by Patrick McGilligan

RITZ LANG is one of those file H directors (Jean Renoir is A Scarlet Street — but nothing of the terpieces. In this biography, Patrick McGilligan homes in on the dark side of Lang's genius, including the bulldozing way in which he coaxed Bennett: "Lang labored over Joss Bennett, blocking her every ges ture, every till of her head.... she was a second-rate actress. The was part of Fritz Lang's power over her; her insecurity made her vulner

Hunting Mister Heartbreak! A Discovery of America, by Jonathan Raban (Vintage, \$13)

September."

September."

Is sheer fancy, of course, but it sheer fancy, of course, but it sheer fancy is sheer fancy. Of course, but it sheer fancy is sheer fancy. Of course, but it sheer fancy is sheer fancy. Of course, but it is sheer fancy inheritance for a while, in the Topy of Vienna inheritance for City or the Gateway to the Rockies

# Le Monde

## Algerian PM bows out after allies desert

speech before the Algerian never could bring himself to return to his family after the war. Tripp had to reconcile his feelings about his ler for the past three years, then disgraced father with the fact that handed in his resignation to Presi-

His departure had been expected for some time. Last autumn Zeroual

presidential election due next spring. been officially announced. But the man tipped for the job is Small Hamneed of men of my generation to like up to their father's service in the dani, a 68-year-old senator from east-Second World War. This book deep ern Algeria. Although most of the cabinet are expected to keep their plex and beautiful meditation on the jobs; two likely casualties are the tangled skein of relationship, interior minister, Mostefa Benmancation minister, Hangaoui Habib

Disliked by the press and the population at large, Ouyahia is blamed not so much for the continuing massacres of civilians as for the now finds himself increasingly isolated politically. A former éminence veritable strategy of failure aimed at

Monetary Fund. At a recent symposlum in Algiers, the IMF paid tribute to his programme of reforms which, it said, had succeeded "remarkably well in restoring financial stability

about the prospects for the economy. In the document published by the daily El Watan — which Ouyahia was due to present as an appendix to his December 6 speech — he predicted that Algeria's balance of trade

change reserves stand at more than \$7.5 billion, inflation has been brought below 5 per cent, after being more than 20 per cent between 1993 and 1994, and industrial output has grown by more than 6 per cent this year.

Living in fear: an Algerian family keep an AK47 automatic weapon at the ready on their living room table; the violence is destroying lives and ruining prospects for economic growth But Ouyahia's opponents point to | three rivals at the 1995 poll — Said | minister, has worked with him in | Gabon delegation are regular nomic and Social Council (Nesc) | keeping a very low profile. Three | possibility. thwarting the current process of said recently that at least one third other candidates have emerged.

were deteriorating, and social in-As for economic growth, the the gap between modernity and supporters point out that he turned from the colonial period. This is Nesc felt it was "insufficient and Arab-Islamic values. He is seen by down the presidency in 1994 after both insulting to the Africans and and in laying the foundations of a probably the result of temporary his non-religious opponents and failing to get the go-ahead from the to ourselves. At a time when factors". It also pointed out that the some members of the military hier- military to start up negotiations. Paris is proud to be celebrating Ouyahia was equally optimistic building sector, which was sup- archy as someone who helped the with FIS leaders. posed to fuel economic recovery. Islamist movement to gain a lasting

was performing disappointingly. But if the economy has problems, Ouyahia cannot be held entirely accontinuing violence is keeping away foreign investors just when the gov- tion Front (FIS). ernment is poised to begin a pro-

gramme of privatisation. Meanwhile there is much specu- ties with a broad spectrum of the

ing conditions for most Algerians

other, less rosy aspects of the cur- Sadi, Nourredine Boukrouh and the past. A joint Ibrahimi-Hamdani visitors to the Elysée Palace. The Betchine, accused Ouyahia of a rent situation. The National Eco- Mahfoud Nahnah - have been "ticket" is seen by some as a

be seen as a man who can bridge

foothold on the political scene.

Ibrahimi, who was foreign minister up until the 1988 riots, has built cessors as president. Curiously, his man likely to be the next prime

Ibrahimi's most serious rival is a

of the population of working age | They are all civilians and seem to | former foreign minister, Abdelazziz | Galtonese capital, Libreville, to However, Ouyahia has won the was now jobless, and that the rate of offer some hope that there may at Bouteflika. After being dismissed as Paris. Inexplicably this has not redundancies was increasing. Liv- last be some form of national recon- a "broken-down horse" by General Khaled Nezzar — a prominent Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi wants to "kingmaker" — Bouteflika has emerged as a strong contender. His no more than a quaint hangover

former prime minister. Mouloud Nationalists and Islamists, on the | Hamrouche, His is a clever, secreother hand, think he possesses just | tive man who has also come out in | countable. Indeed, it seems unlikely the qualities that are needed to favour of a dialogue with the Is- enshrined in it - who agreed unsteer Algeria out of the crisis. In pri- lamists. His opponents blame him | hesitatingly to condone Bongo's show a surplus in 1998, despite | much economic improvement. Oil | vate at least, the courteous and dis- | for having opened the floodgates to | prices are plummeting - Algeria tinguished Ibrahimi argues in the Islamists, when he was prime gets 95 per cent of its foreign earn- | favour of an amnesty and a nation- | minister between 1989 and 1991. ings from hydrocarbons - and the | wide process of dialogue that would | But the FIS had in fact been include the banned Islamic Salva- legalised before he came to office.

A great deal of uncertainty surrounds the presidential poll, and it looks likely that for the first time in Algeria it will take a full two rounds lation about Zeroual's possible suc- political community. Hamdani, the of voting to elect the next president.

After being upbraided by Vienna, styled "righter of wrongs" committed by the communists, that Benda's word without further thought. Havel's advisers were also | Jacques Toubon, a former jusof a scandal nor responded to it ap-

The result is that Havel has seen portunity, describing Havel's action as "deeply scandalous", and pointing out that, had he been in power. he would have acted differently. (December 10)

Elysée Palace still wedded to old habits

**EDITORIAL** 

HE 20th Franco-African L summit in Paris on November 28 showed that France has failed to kick its bad old habits in its dealings with former colonies: once again we have seen corruption and paternalism, contempt for African democracy, and disregard for loudly professed principles.

The problems surfaced with the Gabonese presidential election on December 6: a group of rightwing French lawyers and magistrates agreed to act as "impartial" observers for an election which returned to power the oil-rich president of Gabon, Omar Bongo, He has ruled Gabon since 1967, and is a survivor of the so-called "Francafrique" networks set up by the late Jacques Foccart. The affair became all the more

surprising with the revelation that many members of the flual shock came when a suitcase stuffed with bank notes was intercepted on its way from the resulted in a police inquiry.

Such reprehensible practices are viewed as though they were the 50th anniversary of the The third possible candidate is Universal Declaration of Human Rights, there are Frenchmen some of them magistrates, whose lob is to enforce the principles

Questions about the fairness of that election necessarily arise, given that letters exchanged between the French lawyer, Robert Bourgi, and the man he calls his "papa" (slc), Bongo, clearly indicate that the latter's aim was to recruit indulgent observers who wanted to see him re-elected. Equally disturbing is the fact that the whole farce was organised under the authority of the French ambassador in dissidents, rather than any legal | Libreville, to whom some of the

Bourgi is clearly the key neo-Gaullist Rassemblement pour la République, the party of President Jacques Chirac, and of Club 89, which is headed by tice minister and until recently a presidential adviser.

What happened in Gabon should not be swept under the carpet. It is to be hoped that Chirac France's reputation in this way, (December 9)

### Here's Looking at Yule

Jonathan Yardley

THE PHYSICS OF CHRISTMAS From the Aerodynamics of Reindeer to the Thermodynamics of Turkey By Roger Highfield Little, Brown. 293 pp. \$20

lighten the reader by acting as a psychology, sociology and other movements as they were interguiding spirit, one who will illuminate Christmas by viewing the holiday and its rituals from a new perspective, that of science." He that every which way one turns, and when "the cosmic wisdom of has been shown to produce a feel- things, a celebration of America's writes: "Christman and seed and seed things, a celebration of America's and the cosmic wisdom of has been shown to produce a feelcelebrations offer a wonderful ex- Rudolph's nose, for example, is red fractals to neuropharmacology and nanotechnology. If appetites are curiosity about the subject is stimulated, I will be pleased."

The order Highfield has set for

The tone of his book is whimsical with only occasional lapses into the merely fey, and he manages to get across a great deal of complicated information in lay terms. The title of such enterprises in which scientific

exactitude gives way to hit or miss. Certainly he leaves no doubt Christmas is a scientist's holiday, the ancients" was closely connected welcoming environment for bugs." But Rudolph is not, as commonly the Magi and others followed may depicted, in all his antiered glory, as | well have been Jupiter moving in a crowning glory around the time that

the holiday is celebrated". The Magi brought gold to the himself is taller than the reader may | Christ child, Highfield writes, for at first imagine, for he faces a "obvious" reasons, but why frankinunique challenge: to explicate the cense and myrrh? What good could scientific facts. (some hard, some they have done the infant Jesus in rather less so) about Christmas his manger in Bethlehem? Well, us from marking the day when we just the right note.

guided them to the manger? Many scientists believe that it was a something to do with planetary preted in an age when astrology

to celestial observations; no one between planets and stars, so what

both are fragrant resins and both | always do, or from constructing that celebration around such odd tradiwere used for medicinal purposes, frankincense "to treat wounds and | tions as dead trees mounted indoors In religious rites", myrrh for "Infec- and strung with baubles or cooked holiday's wonder and mystery. For tions of the mouth, teeth and eyes, (often overcooked) turkeys and the most part Highfield is up to it. | as well as for coughs" and to "cure | brussels sprouts. On the subject of poisoning from snakebites". The which, the "slightly bitter, sulfurous Magi, therefore, sought to protect taste" of brussels sprouts, so him against infection and disease. Ioathed by children, were "meant to The Star of Bethlehem that discourage would-be insect diners". Chocolate, so beloved by Christmas

revelers, has in every 100 grams Dejournalist who specializes in cussion is hardly limited to physics; comet, while others suspect it had "5 milligrams of methylxanthine award for his most recent book, Bad sciences, have necessarily believe that it was a reveiers, has in every 100 grams of methylxanthine award for his most recent book, Bad sciences, have necessarily believe that it was a reveiers, has in every 100 grams of methylxanthine award for his most recent book, Bad sciences, have necessarily believe that it was a reveiers, has in every 100 grams of methylxanthine award for his most recent book, Bad sciences, have necessarily believe that it was a reveiers, has in every 100 grams of methylxanthine award for his most recent book. bromine", both of which are related in Seattle who has traveled exten to caffeine, as well as "660 milwas regarded as a hard science (not | ligrams of phenylthymine, a chemithat any such term then existed) | cal relative of amphetamines, which

ing of well-being and alertness". nation of "the most spectacular to feel proprietary. "If you losted cuse to explore a broad range of | because "reindeer noses provide a | then understood the difference | an immensely entertaining examiresearch and development project this planet has ever seen," — the Gulf... the experience would even whetted for science, or at least male reindeer actually lose their westerly direction. Calculations by process by which Santa Claus, tually give you a landowner's sells curiosity about the subject is aliented, in all male reindeer actually lose their westerly direction. Calculations by process by which Santa Claus, tually give you a landowner's sells. Highfield and others indicate that if makes 842 million stops each of possession. All the cities you Christmas Eve, dropping gifts down have nibbled at, as if each one was Christ actually took place in 7 B.C. the chimneys of the world's 2.1 bil- an eclair, they are yours. Maybe and should be calculated as a second should be calculated and should be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrated not in lion children, or at least as many day, when you're shown the swing to be celebrat December but "sometime around of them as he possibly can. This door, or the kids are in college.

sively in the United States. Hunting Mister Heartbreak is one producted those travels, and, among olkf paradoxical size. The country Highfield saves his best for last: vast, but as you travel through it for

### Havel loses face over diplomatic blunder

TACLAY HAVEL, who was a playwright before he became president of the Czech Republic, could well have written the "comedy clav Benda, an ex-dissident and a of the absurd" that ended on December 8 when he welcomed the vestigation into the Crimes of Com-Austrian Helmut Zilk to his Prague residence. The case had been poisoning the Czech Republic's relalions with neighbouring Austria for more than a month.

The saga began just before the to determine whether Zilk, who had 80th anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia on October 28, 4 1918. Havel had been intending to use the occasion to decorate Zilk, a

But days before the ceremony was

Martin Plichta in Prague sent information suggesting that Zilk been careless when talking to spieshad collaborated with the Czech secret service under the communist regime from 1953-68. After the infor- the Czech foreign ministry officially

> Zilk's former director of the Office of Invited the ex-mayor of Vienna to munism. Havel struck Zilk off the list Prague so he could show him the of people he intended to decorate. contents of the file. Zilk said he was His decision sparked an outcry in "satisfied" with the statement by the Prague and Vienna, leading to the foreign ministry and with Havel's setting up of a commission of inquiry "symbolic gesture", and would not

assisted Czech émigrés during the seventies and eighties, could indeed have aided the communists. After scrutinising the files of the StB (the Czech secret police under ruled that Zilk had never been a se- orate anyone who collaborated with

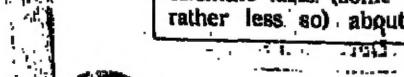
mation was confirmed by senator Va- presented its "regrets for the dis- probably caused him to accept semination of unfounded informacollaboration with the StB. Havel in- at fault: they neither spotted the risk propriately when it broke.

therefore demand an apology. The case has revealed a serious dysfunction in the Czech administration, and more particularly in the president's immediate circle. Havel cannot, as a matter of principle, decto take place, Havel's office was cret service agent. He had simply the communists that jalled him. He

used his connections with former structure, to check the past of those | letters were addressed. who were about to be decorated.

his reputation damaged and his popularity reduced. He has also given his opponents a stick with which to his recent speeches on democracy beat him. His presidential rival, the in Africa and human rights, and former prime minister. Vaclay Klaus, has made good use of the op-

will practise what he preached in put an end to such practices. It is also to be hoped that the justice minister. Elisabeth Guidou, will have something to say about the magistrates who have tarnished





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## Resurrecting the fallen saints of Assisi

Emmanuel de Roux and Martine Valo

WO disasters which nearly destroyed some of world's greatest works of art are the raison-d'être of exhibitions now on in the western French city of Rennes and in Paris.

In 1994 paintings and woodwork were badly damaged by a fire at the Parlement de Bretagne, formerly the Breton parliament building and now the home of the court of appeal. Three and a half years later, two successive earthquakes struck Italy and reduced to rubble frescoes by Giotto (1267-1337) and his teacher, Cimabue (1240-1302), in the 13th century Basilica of St Francis in Assisi, which houses the largest group of late medieval paint-

Sauver Assise (Save Assisi), the show now on at the Musée du Petit Palais in Paris, has been organised in aid of the restoration work now under way in Assisi. During the night of September 26, 1997, the Basilica of St Francis was shaken by an earthquake. At about 11am next morning, when 20 people — monks, experts on historic monuments and journalists - had gathered in the church to assess the damage, a secand and much more violent quake brought down sections of the vaulting near the church entrance and at the junction of the nave and the transept. Four people were crushed

The vaults were entirely covered with Giotto frescoes depicting several saints. Near the transept Cimabue had painted a star-studded heaven with St Matthew and an angel. All these frescoes were literally shattered by the earthquake.

After being meticulously col-



Central Department of Restoration, 1

The fragments are examined one by one and compared with photographs of the destroyed frescoes, Slowly but surely they are being assembled: St Ruffino and St Benedict are now recognisable, "We're working on the six other saints and have already pieced their heads together," says Basile.

The Basilica of St Francis, whose lected and sorted, the fragments | interior is now covered with scafwere stored in a huge improvised folding, will be reopened on Christlaboratory near the basilica, where mas Day 1999 once the whole Bretagne in Rennes, \$1.5 million of restorers have since been working | building has been structurally rein- | which will be spent on the damaged under the direction of Professor forced. But the damaged frescoes paintings. The fire that swept Giuseppe Basile, of the Rome-based | will not be returned to the vaulting | through the building in 1994 broke |

until 2003 or 2004. Basile reckons | out when a distress flare landed on to assemble a gigantic jigsaw puzzle | that at a conservative estimate it | its roof during a violent demonstrashould be possible to save 60-70 per | tion by fishermen. The paintings

The exhibition at the Petit Palais in Paris, which shows 60 items from the basilica's museum, will go on to New York and Japan. There is no entrance fee, but it is hoped that visitors will make donations towards the cost of the basilica's run to \$35 million.

It is thought it will cost \$40 million to restore the Parlement de were rescued only at the very last

On display at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rennes are the 47 paintings that were saved. They include works by Charles Errard (1606-89) and Noël Copyel (1628-1707) — allegories painted in dellrestoration, which is expected to cate 17th century colours, now beautifully restored.

But the paintings look incongruous out of their setting, partly because they come in all shapes and sizes — they used to be framed by painted and gilded wooden mouldings. Here again, the restorers are

faced with the problem of solving a jigsaw puzzle of carefully numbered fragments. Each panel needs the attentions of a wood carver, 7 cabinet-maker, a decorator, a painting restorer, a gilder and a lock-

The Parlement de Bretagne was to be restored. Restorers were already pouring in from al over France. Some of the canvase were even given first aid on the putting out the last of the flames.

The man in charge of the restora-tion work, Alain-Charles Perrot, a

Such "plastic surgery" is always highly controversial, but in this case the restoration work does not seem to have run into any opposition. The work has been carried out at a brisk pace in a large and well-equipped workshop in Rennes.

But not all the works of art have been so lucky. Some of the 20 19th century tapestries in the Parlement de Bretagne were taken for restoration to a warehouse of the Mobilier National near Paris. There they languished unattended for a year before being destroyed in another fire.

The restored paintings are expected to return to their original panels in a renovated Parlement de Bretagne building next year.

Sauver Assise, Musée du Pelil Palais, Paris, Closed Monday. Until February 14. de Bretagne, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rennes, Closed Tuesday. Until January 4.

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### Museum of Judaism avoids painful history

Nicolas Welli

HE opening in Paris on Decem-L ber 6 of a Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaïsme gives a strong signal that the memory of a persecuted minority has been integrated into French history as a whole. This is reinforced by the fact that the museum, which is housed in the Hôtel de Saint-Aignan, in the Marais, has been financed by the culture ministry and the city of Paris.

Yet despite its location and funding, the museum does not confine itself to reflecting only the history of the Jews in France. It transcends borders, and indeed religion itself by refusing to explore Judaism from a purely religious perspective. We are shown Spinoza's Holland, the Poland of the slitetl, the fervent religiosity of the Hasidim, and the land of Israel under the first Zionists.

youd the typical "lachrymose" view of the history of the Jews: as a long series of sufferings and persecutions. Judaism is explored, not through comparison with other price: the finely calculated linerary horror of the Shoah, There is an alknown in France.

ods in Jewish history should be ex-Shoah occupied a less central position in the perception of the contemporary Jewish identity.

lection donated by the Dreyfus fam- approach to Judaism, which is seen (Ketuboth). ily and an 1892 painting by Samuel | more as a civilisation than as a reli-Hirszenberg (1865-1908), which degion or a nation. picts the anguish of mourners at a This makes it possible for it to Jewish cemetery at the height of the pogroms that took place during the cycle of Jewish holidays that regu-Tsarist period in Russia.

well to its brief in its handling of lows various ethnological features such a protean subject, though it to be included — different kinds of The museium also tries to go be could be criticised for devoting very headgear and the marvellous cere the Sukkoth harvest festival, and the little space to "deviants" such as | monial dress of the Jewish commuwomen, the Karaites (who rejected the oral law) and messionic or mys-

total absence of the Jewish antiqui- is what defines Jewish art. Consetures, but instead in its own right. Ites that are the glory of museums | quently she has chosen to introduce | written word, an idion which, until However, this approach comes at a | in Israel and, at the other end of the | the subject with a series of mural historical scale, the Jewish-Ameri- quotations (an extract from Gene- istic feature of Jewish art than was ends in the 1930s, thus omitting the can community, which is little sis, an elegy to Zion by the 12th cen-

lusion to the genocide in the form of | Jewish art and Jewish history are an installation by Christian Boltan- not easy to illustrate. The museum ski. But visitors will no doubt think | tackles this by offering a pluralist that one of the most defining peri- conception of Judaism. It presents a unifying vision of Jewish history. plored in more detail. The reason it | which focuses on both the land that has not been is related to the fact | is so dear to the Zionists, and on the that, when the museum was first | Torah and the revelation on Mount planned in the mid-eighties, the Sinal that is central to religious Jew-

The museum aims to be accessible to everyone; no prior knowledge Anti-Semitism is represented, but of the subject is assumed. It is

weave secular creations and the larly occur during the year into an The museum has kept admirably overall historical account. It also alnity in Tétouan, in Morocco.

Laurence Sigal, the curator of the museum, believes that the essential Two glaring omissions are the relationship between object and text tury Spanish poet, Judah Ha-Levi,

and In the City of the Massacre, a | "The Jewish presence in 20th cenpoem about the Kishinev pogrom of tury art", text — in this case a bibli-1903 written by Hayyim Nahman Bialik, one of the 20th century writers who injected new life into the Hebrew language)

Nor is it by chance that the first lae from the Jewish cemeteries that were once scattered all over the Latin Quarter in Paris, Covered with Hebrew inscriptions, these are "texts as objects" par excellence. The story of Jewish history is taken further with the display of micrographical texts, illuminations and also discreetly in the form of a col thematic and chronological in its calligraphic marriage contracts

> the object also governs the way the Jews, though it was stifled during trappings of Jewish worship are exhibited. The crowns that adorn the scrolls of the Torah in synagogues, the silver pectorals which embellish the velvet mantles, the wooden huts decorated with frescoes that serve as a ritual form of habitation during candlesticks used during Hanukkah are all Jewish objects deeply imbued with biblical allusions.

Paintings and sculptures by 20th century Jewish artists perpetuated for a time that relationship with the the twenties, was a more character

In the section cautiously entitled

cal text — is still commonly found, as in Marc Chagall's works. Other artists, however, rapidly became more individualistic: the result was not so much "Jewish painting" as a sense of the fears felt by Jews in a disturbing modern world. This is clearly portrayed in the works of Modigliani, Soutine and Zadkine (some of which are on show). Although effective and auda

cious, this conception of the Jewish object does not sufficiently take into account — perhaps because of lack of space — the love of the month mental which was also a consiant This emphasis on the text within feature of the artistic history of the ture will no doubt be given its proper place in the temporary extr bitions later to be organised at the

> Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaisme, Hôtel de St-Aignen, Paris, Closed Saturday. (November 29-30)

# se Monde

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#### 5. Relevant post-graduate qualification

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#### Applications:

Job descriptions are available on request. Applications close on 22 January 1999. Send your curriculum vitae, a list of referees and a letter addressing each of the specifications listed above to: Mrs. Leen Van Helleputte, CIDSE CLV Programme

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- 6. Strong communication skills, cultural sensitivity
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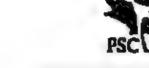
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to: Public Service Commission of Canada, 66 Slater Street, 11th Floor, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M7. Fax: (613) 996-8048. To apply on-line, visit our Internet site at: http://www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/jobs.htm

As an equal opportunity employer, Health Canada is committed to achieving a skilled, diversified workforce that reflects the diversity of the Canadian population. We encourage members of the following designated groups to apply and also self-identify: Women (especially In non-traditional occupational groups), members of a visible minority group, Aboriginal people and persons with a disability.



Canada

DACAAR - Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees

invites applications for a position as

### PROGRAMME MANAGER, WESTERN AFGHANISTAN

DACAAR is implementing a 9 mill. US\$ programme in Alghanistan with the objectives of supporting social and economic recovery and promoting the return of the 2,4 mill. refugees who remain in Pakistan and Iran. The programme consists of two main elements: 1) systematic coverage with drinking water supply, sanitation and health sducation in Afghanistan; 2) community-based approach, focusing on integrated agricultural rehabilitation and development in selected districts. The 1999 budget for western Afghanistan is 3 mill. US\$, and the staff numbers some 230 persons, of which two

The Programme Manager reports to the Director in Peshawar, Pakistan, and is responsible for management of the programme, preparation of strategy and activity proposals, funding applications and budgets, internal/external reports, appointment and supervision of staff, and liaison with local authorities and donors.

The incumbent should have several years of proven management skills, an M.A. or Ph.D. in technical and/or social science as well as solid, professional experience from planning and implementing rural development programmes with infrastructural works with a strong element of community organisation, preferably within Islamic cultural areas.

The salary and conditions will generally be in accordance with Danida's regulations.

Date of commencement: 1st May 1999. Duty station: Application:

Herat, Afghanistan. In English before 15th January 1999 to:

DACAAR, g/o Danish Refuges Council P.O.B. 53 DK-1002 Copenhagen K Phone: +45 33 73 50 00

Fax:+45 33 32 84 48

Further Information may be requested in writing.

DACAAR is a consortium established in 1984 by: The Danish Refugee Council Caritas Denmark Danish Association for International Cooperation Denish People's Relief Organisation

**GUARDIAN WEEKLY** 

December 20 1998

#### THE SWISS TROPICAL INSTITUTE Invites applications for the post of Head of the Support Centre for International Health

The Support Centre for International Health (SCIH) is one of the two operational and service departments of the Swiss Tropical Institute (STI), a leading ucademic institution in the field of international health in Switzerland. The SCIH of STI is a major executing and consulting agency for the Swiss Government in the field of International Health and has currently some twenty collaborators with a wide scope of professional and cultural backgrounds. The department is active in Africa, Asia and countries of the former Eastern Block.

The Head of Department is responsible to lead the SCIH and will report to the Director of the Swiss Tropical Institute.

Requirements for this challenging task include:

- Sound public health background. Experience in the management of multidisciplinary
- programmes and/or an institutional depurtment. At least five years of working experience in the health sector at district, regional and national level in a developing country and/or the former Eastern Block.
- Experience in the field of humanitarian aid would be a special
- Acquaintance with major funding agencies is essential. Documented experience and strong interest in the field of health systems research is desirable
  - Proven teaching skills and experience is an advantage. Excellent oral and written German, English and French is Russian, Spanish or Swahili would be an advantage.

The application of suitable female candidates is strongly

An initial contract of two years will be offered with an atmetive salary according to the regulations of the Swiss Tropical Institute.

The post should be filled as soon as possible Applications with detailed Carriculum Vitae and names of three references should be submitted to the Director. Swiss Tropical Institute, Sociastrasse 57. CH-4002 Basel (phone +41 61-2848283, Fax +11 61271 79 51)

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**Chief Executive** 

INDICT is a non-governmental organisation based in London which campaigns for an international tribunal to bring members of the Iraqi regime to justice. INDICT is seeking a Chief Executive. Reporting to the board of directors, you will be responsible for developing and implementing INDICT's overall strategy and overseeing the day-to-day activities of the campaign. You may have senior managerial experience, possibly in an NGO or charitable body. You should have significant experience in international legal, human rights, social or political issues. You will know how to lobby governments, the UN and the international community effectively and be able to build coalitions with NGOs and other groups. You will need extensive staff management and budgeling experience, and excellent leadership and communication

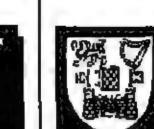
Salary from £35K.

#### Part-time Financial Director (2-3 days per week)

INDICT is seeking a financial director to work 2-3 days a week in our central London office. You will be responsible for all financial issues associated with managing a substantial budget. Responsibilities will include producing company accounts, managing payroll and administration, assisting with preparation of funding bids, and overseeing IT functions.

You should hold an accounting qualification and have at least 2 years' experience in a senior financial management role. Charity or NGO experience would be helpful.

Please confact INDICT with your CV and letter of application at Box GCL99, The Guardian, 164 Deansgate, Manchester, England M60 2RR.



### UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN TRINITY COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the following appointment in the Department of Sociology, tenable from 1 October 1999 (or as soon as possible thereafter).

### Chair of Sociology (1974)

The vacancy has arisen following the recent retirement of Professor John A. Jackson. Candidates must have a distinguished record of research publication and achievement in any area of Sociology. The appointee will be expected to serve as Head of Department in accordance with College regulations.

Appointment will be made at an appropriate point of the professorial salary scale, currently IR£48,175- IR£62,250. Further particulars relating to this appointment may be

Michael Gleeson

Secretary to the College West Theatre Trinity College, Dublin 2 Telephone: 353-1-608-2197/1722 Facsimile: 353-1-671-0037 E-Mail: domurphy@tcd.le

applications should be sent, to arrive before the preferred closing date - Monday, 1 February 1999.

Information about the Department of Sociology can be accessed at: http://www2.tcd.ie/Sociology/

Trinity College is an equal opportunities employer.

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World Vision

World Vision is a Christian organisation and one of the world's leading aid agencies, working in over 100 countries and helping over 50 million people in their struggle against poverty, hunger and injustice.

in connection with our British Government (DFID) funded, agricultural development project in Zambezia Province, Mozambique, we are inviting applications for the following position.

### Rural Sociologist/ Agro-Sociologist

The holder of this post will work with agricultural extension and research staff, to develop a farmer to farmer extension system, and community managed agricultural development organisations. Candidates should be able to demonstrate experience of farmer participatory research and extension, the use of PRA to establish community based programmes and organisations, as well as the monitoring of the impact of agricultural development programmes on the livelthood security of rural communities,

For this position a minimum of ten years relevant post graduate work experience is required, with at least five years in Africa. The ability to learn a foreign language must be demonstrated, preferably with fluency in spoken and written Portuguese. The above post is a salaried position with a package of henefits including housing, utilities and medical insurance. Our staff are fully in sympathy with World Vision's Christian basis of faith.

For further details, about this position or other employment opportunities within World Vision's projects overseas, please send or fax your CV to: Overseas Recruitment, World Vision UK, 599 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 3PG, UK Fax: +44 (0)1908 841014 E-mail: cliff eaton@worldvision.org.uk

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MERLIN is a UK based charity providing emergency medical relief, with mans currently working in Africa, Asia, and former Soviet Union MEDICAL CO-ORDINATOR-TAJIKISTAN

communicable disease control, principally through training and research in a region with epidemic typhoid and malaria. The post would suit a person with clinical or public PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR - SOUTH SUDAN We are seeking an individual with previous management experience in emergency relief

We are seeking a doctor who is interested in infectious diseases, to develop capacity in

programmes to co-ordinate our feeding and medical programmes in Bohr-el- Ghazal region. The post, based in Lokichogio, will also involve representation and undertaking LOGISTICS CO-ORDINATOR - SOUTH SUDAN Working in South Sudan is logistically challenging, therefore this post, based in Lakichogio, is a viul support to our operations in Bain-el-Ghazel, whilst also providing

(Ref: GW/LC/SSE/12/98)

a strong link between Nairobi and the field. The role may also involve undertaking

assessments. Previous experience in co-ordinating air freight, and strong Baison skills gra essential. PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR - DRC

Based in Klushasa, the programme co-ordinator will be responsible for managing an emergency programme in Bas-Congo to re-establish basic health facilities in two bealth zones covering a population of approximately 180,000. Fivent French and previous experience of managing emergency relief programmes is essential. (Ref: GW/PC/DRC/12/48) We are also seeking Doctors (with qualifications in Tropical Medicine or public bealth). Nurses, Nutritionists, Logisticians and Cinancial Administrators with previous immandiarian aid experience for our ongoing programmes. Allowance. from £450 per month (from £750 per month for co-ordinator) + overseas package Dúsation: Crom 6-12 months

Please send CV to: Human Resources Term, MERLIN, 14 David Mews, Porser St. London WIM IHW. Fex: 0171 487 4042/emuil: hrtomerlin.org.ok Please note: to keep costs to a minimum only shortlisted applicants will be competed.









Letter from Southern India Sakuntala Narasimhan

**OBITUARY** Lord Grade

EW GRADE, who has died of heart failure aged 91, was unusual even among showmen in being able to turn a flair for wheeler-dealing into a creative art. As an agent who imported American stars into the dreary austerity days after the war as well as devel oping local talent; as an impresario; as a television tycoon with the common touch, he was adept at matching ideas to personalities.

Grade was the eldest of the three showbusiness brothers, alongside Bernard Delfont and Leslie Grade and was the leader and trail-blazer. This meant he got on better with Leslie, an introverted figures man. than Delfont, a showman himself marred by the discovery that Lew. before, had got one too.

He could marry talent to willing, or even unwilling, finance. A typical persuasive victory came when Roger Moore, after seven years as the television Saint, told Grade he would never do another TV series. But Grade wanted him for a new vehicle. The Persuaders, American financiers didn't, claiming that Moore was over-exposed. They would only back the series if Grade could get Tony Curtis as the other Persuader. Curtis had vowed never to do television, but 90 minutes with Grade changed his mind. Grade then offered Moore a cigar and an already made-out cheque. The Persuaders was a success.

sky in the Ukrainian town of Tokmak, near Odessa. When Louis was six, the family made the move from impoverishment and

A film about lesbians has



Lord Grade, with trademark cigar . . . the one-time Charleston champion

in London's East End. Destined for | client - Kathleen Moody, a petite accountancy, he instead was noticed | singer for whom he deliberately did Alfred Goldstein, an agent who too lewd and risqué for her. In 1942 booked artists for the Savoy Hotel's | they married at Caxton Hall — the whose acceptance of a peerage from | cabaret and who suggested going | best deal he ever made, said Grade. Harold Wilson in 1976 was slightly | for a job as an agent for a local clothclothing firm with his father.

Charleston, "Louis Grad" won the "world solo Charleston championship" at the Albert Hall in 1926. he tended to smoke cigars mostly with the showman C B Cochran and | when cameras were present. Fred Astaire as judges.

came a professional dancer. He by investing in ATV, which made an joined a dance band, expanded his | initially disastrous start, after which act, and met the agent Joe Collins. father of Joan and Jackie, who got him a job at the Ambassadeurs club.

Gradually Grade — he had taken the name after a French paper mispelt Grad as Grade when he appeared at the Moulin Rouge - got Grade was born Louis Winograd- drawn into Collins' agency. But by 1934 the Charleston was passé, he time to move on and up.

them himself. This was, he said. born". He found that a cigar in his dence, and it became his trademark - though, like Winston Churchill,

He sold the clothing firm and be- mercial television. Grade responded he moved in full-time and made another fortune. It became one of the dominant original television compain popular commercial TV. Shows his 90s. such as Sunday Night At The London Palladium and Emergency Ward 10. came to rule the TV Top Ten.

By the 1970s, as head of the giant had water on the knees, and it was | ACC company which brought live shows and TV under one umbrella. It was at this point, with war ap- | he decided to climb the highest

by the man who lived opposite, not get a part in a show, deeming it | dios. Grade decided he would do

But then, in 1980, came Raise The Titanic. This was to be his "James After the war, at around the time | Bond" movie and used a model of ing firm. At 15, Grade took the job, his wife suggested he offer his the sunken liner that itself cost as who had been knighted seven years | quickly grew out of it, and set up a | clients cigars, he began smoking | much as many modest film budgets, and a tank said to be the biggest in And then there was dancing at | "the real moment Lew Grade was | Europe. The film sold well - in Japan. The flop threatened not only mouth or hand gave him confi- Grade's leadership but the very existence of ACC, which subsequently fell in to the hands of the Australian Robert Holmes a'Court.

Grade meanwhile worked first for Then in the mid-1950s came com- the US Embassy Communications group as its London chief before establishing his own company, and setting up deals in films and TV.

Grade was still at work, the bearer of several honours, including the Fellowship of the British Acadnies, and Grade the dominant figure emy of Film and Television Arts, in

He is survived by Kathie, an adopted son and two grandchildren.

Dennis Barker

Lew Grade (Baron Grade of Elstree)

Impresario, born December 25, 1906; died December 13, 1998

because we have been actively kept out of politics by men who feel threatened by ambitious women. But there is a silent revolution taking place in India: it's the first country in the world where there is a 33 per cent reservation for women pushed on the powerless by the at local council level. That's changing things: they're addressing devel-Temple University, a former po-

provided by the male mind only. "Police have always been trained The Indian male believes power to get people to submit to them choice must rest with her, not with a | is rightfully his to exercise when he by intimidating them," he said. "culture". When the person who is | society that says it's only "bad" | will. If he doesn't, that is considered "That . . . doesn't work with a mark of his greatness. But India is a unique country because it lives in several centuries simultaneously: contradictions that come from being

two years ago, said: "I experitwo years ago, said: "I expensive gate-slide mounted ford, Balham, London most prevalent was anger. I was There is this constant conflict of very angry with the woman for forcing me into this situation." in their own way.

#### Boar plague 'Suicide by strikes fear cop' cases into France on the rise

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

December 20 1998

**Paul Webster** Michael Ellison in New York

A NDRE DUMAZET, a retired Fig OLICE in the United State A Parisian shopkeeper, who spotare being confronted by ted five wild boars lazing in his what appears to be a macabre swimming pool at Saint-Tropez as if new trend — the tendency of they were amiable holidaymakers desperate men and women to found nothing funny in the scene. commit suicide by goading offi-To him the pigs were the advance cers into shooting them. guard of a large and menacing

Two studies have found that army. There has been a remarkable the phenomenon, dubbed "suiproliferation of the animals, which cide by cop", is sharply on the reportedly hunt in herds, disemincrease. Researchers at bowel sheep, knock over ramblers Harvard medical school say tha and cause traffic accidents. up to one in six police shootings This year there were an estiin the US are provoked by a permated 700,000 boars on the loose. son with suicidal tendencies. nearly nine times more than roamed

The other study, by Los 25 years ago, despite a record cull in Angeles county officers, suggests that the trend accounted Half of the herds live among the for 25 per cent of all police shootings last year, more than twice the level during the previ-Last month police shot dead a

has also been damaging in northern nun in Orange county after a France, forcing officials to open the three-hour stand-off. The man hunting season in August, two was said to have told his hostages months early, in the hope of keepthat he did not have the courage ing them in check. to take his own life and hoped the What would be a feast for Asterix's police would shoot him. pal Obelix — boar's meat fetches | can't cope." Most of those shot were men

about \$8 a kilo - has become r who had had encounters with the terrifying threat for shepherds in law and suffered depression, acthe Jean Giono country behind the cording to the Los Angeles study. Mediterranean coastline. About half the cases involved Claude Mabille, who has a sheep people who had been involved in farm among the bare hills of Hautedomestic violence, had drug or Provence, has created an associaalcohol problems, or had prevition called Stop-Ravages with 200 ously tried to kill themselves.

kill them for many reasons," said

Clinton van Zandt, former chief

hostage negotiator for the FBI.

"Perhaps their religion forbids

"Sometimes it's a matter of

image. It's the John Wayne way k

A year ago Moshe Pergament,

A note in his car read: "To the

officer who shot me. This was a

plan. I'm sorry to get you in-

volved. I just needed to die."

Professor James Fyfe of

liceman, said that too often

fronted with disturbed people.

emotionally disturbed people.

woman in a suicide-by-cop case

Other officers report post-

traumatic stress symptoms,

including anger, resentment,

and depression.

disbelief, nightmares, anxiety

police bureau, who shot a

Scott Westerman of Portland

suicide or they are afraid to do it.

other isolated farmers. The researchers looked at the "Part of the growth can be 437 police shootings in the blamed on the rural exodus and the county since 1987. Forty-six sharp drop in the number of fitted the definition of suicide-bynunters. Forests were deliberately and their stomachs ripped out. see what I mean." cop — 13 in the past year alone. "People turn to the police to

A HEN was the word

"quack" first used to de-

scribe a bogus doctor, and what

virtues of his salves" - salve

(Dutch zelf) being an ointment. The

Woordenboek der Nederlandsche

Taal (the Dutch equivalent of the

THE inscription "Salecnyos

Bos Leo Seticanva" is cast

nequired for gate-slide mount-

ag. Can anyone translate it?

Alo an old brass bell I recently

is the association with ducks?

1997 of more than 320,000 beasts.

scrubby garrigue of the Mediter-

ranean coastline, where they are

blamed for devastating crops and

golf greens. The growth in numbers

Notes & Queries Joseph Harker its young on blood from its own | when its speed first surpasses the | buy a sewing machine to make breast, came to be a symbol of the speed of sound). The boom is money from tailoring at home since redeeming role of Christ and the | created by the body of the aircraft, sacrament of the Eucharist. Leo | much as a wake is created by a hull (lion) and Bos (bull or ox) are sym-A S THE Oxford English Dictionbols of the evangelists Mark and Luke. If any creatures are depicted on the bell they may help to com-"quacksalver", from Dutch kwakplete a pattern of Christian symbolvalver. The OED suggests as meanism. — Peter McNiven, John Rylands ing "someone who boasts about the Library, University of Manchester

hunters' demands, but now they just

at night in the Aude département

TO WHAT does "pied" refer in the Pied Piper of Hamelin?

OED) gives kwakken which, unlike English "to quack", does not mean lo sound like a duck", but "to move Coloured or variegated, origilike a duck", to move around unnally black and white, like a magpie. the meaning "to bungle", also and Latin pica, a magpie. The refersuggested by the OED, seems more ence is to the piper's coloured cloth-Appropriate. — Redgy van Hove. ing. But, although the story is said to originate in 1284, according to | V V garden gnomes? — James the OED the earliest recorded use of "pied" in this sense is 1382. — Arthur Clifford, Southall, Middlesex

VES! It says: "This bell should '

, not, under any circumstances, gate-slide mounted." Gary Cornwith various creatures and Latin in- there was no such effect. Scriptions. Is Seticanva a misreading

travelling through water, or Cherenkov radiation is emitted by a charged particle travelling at near light speed through, say, water. reverberates off nearby objects. -Arthur Ogawa, Three Rivers, California, USA

WW when a plane - or car goes through the sound barrier?

**DEFORE** supersonic flight was achieved, there was speculation that the aircraft would encounter | for untrustworthy conmen? flight difficulties as its speed passed AY GRANDMOTHER had a the "sound barrier". Chuck Yeager, With similar small bell decorated the first to do so, reported that

of Pelicanes, which was on her bell? The pelican of mythology, which fed supersonic speeds (and not just don Road, London EC1M 3HQ "boom" when an alreraft flies by at

from the fields, carrying bundles of rice, onions and salt bought on the way home. Soon, kerosene lamps begin to flicker inside each mud-andthatch but as the women start cooking the family meal, often rice, spiced with onions and a chilli or two. None of the women has finished school; most are illiterate and yet, collectively, they are initiating transformation that is being haited as one of the most significant social mobilisations since Gandhi's freedom struggle.

Helping hands

As soon as the family is fed, the women slip out of their huts, some carrying sleepy infants in arms, and room beside a banyan tree. This is a vicious circle. the "office" of the Mahila Sangani (women's association). Deciding that, 50 years after

that leads to the village, dusk is

falling, and the women - all poor

farm labourers earning 15 rupees

(40 US cents) a day — are returning

independence, state initiatives for rural development had not made restocked with game to meet | Dogs would have attacked the any difference to their poverty-ridden lives, these women decided last But Jacques Vassant, of the year to try self-help.

Flocks of sheep are now guarded Office National de la Chasse, was Each woman contributes one doubtful that the pigs would gore rupee a day to a common pool, and after attacks in which 22 ewes and | sheep. "Boars are opportunists, and | 25 women make up a group which 13 lambs were killed on one farm | If they can't get enough of their | collects a corpus of 750 rupees per alone in the past four months. | staple diet, such as acorns, they'll month. This money is then taken as Mireille Ouradou, a local veterinary | eat anything from grass to vines," | a loan by one of the group, in rolasurgeon, has been collecting post- he said. "They'll even dig up worms | tion, for a chosen income generamortem evidence that the wild pigs | and scavenge in dustbins, but they | tion scheme.

are not carrion eaters. The dangers Sankaramma is "president" and "The injuries show that the sheep are exaggerated, and wiping them begins the meeting by describing were attacked from behind," she out would not be justified. Too the needs of each loan applicant; said. Their tails had been pulled off | many people are crying wolf, if you | Zubeida's husband has tuberculosis and she needs a loan to start a small tea shop to earn some money; Nagamani, recently widowed, wants to purchase a goat that she can rear and sell for a profit. Sadiya wants to she has recently given birth and cannot work in the fields. Ramalakshmi wants to set up a vegetable vending business. And so it goes.

Sankaramma has before her an onion, a steel tumbler and a smooth Because the airframe is moving stone. The names of the priority faster than sound, its disturbances | claimants, chosen by consensus, go to the air add up to a cone-shaped | under the onion; those under the "wake". When that wake passes our | tumbler are next in urgency, and location, we observe a blip in the air | the stone ones can wait. The corpus pressure that turns into a boom as it of 750 rupees goes to the case under the onion that is voted the most deserving. The woman uses

ODAY is market day for the | repays her loan in instalments. At women of Husainapuram. As | the next meeting, one of the other I turn down the dirt track women will be the beneficiary.

Individually the women could not have dreamt of savings of even a few hundred rupees. Together, 180,000 poor, illiterate, rustic women in three districts, known as Podupu Lakshmi groups (after the Hindu goddess of wealth), have raised 7 million rupces.

These women used to borrow, in times of need (illness, childbirth, drought) from money lenders (usually their landlords) at anything from 360 to 480 per cent interest. Unable to keep up even the interest payments, the families invariably became bonded labourers, working for years (sometimes generations) without wages. This state of Andhra Pradesh is estimated to have 350,000 bonded labourers, though bondage was officially "abolished" head for a small, dimly-lit brick | 50 years ago. Poverty became truly

was a United Nations pilot project for women's empowerment through self-help, using folk songs, games and pictograms. It has achieved a dramatic psychological change, replacing abjectness with enthusiasm and initiative.

Previously the women wouldn't seek treatment when they were ill. partly because the dispensary was 6km away, and partly because pain was seen as integral to a woman's life. Now Maddamma, whom the group deputed for a month's training at the town hospital last year, shares her knowledge of simple cures, prevention and nutrition.

The interest from the women's fund also pays for a teacher hired for the village's children, which means that girl children need no longer drop out from school to look after younger siblings while the mothers work in the fields.

Isn't it hard to contribute one rupee out of 15, when 15 is itself insufficient to live on, I ask.

"We were half-starving anyway on 15, so managing on 14 makes little difference — and we gain so much," the women tell me.

"Sure, the men disapproved at first. Rasoonbee here got beaten by her husband when he found out she had joined the group. Now, he says to her, 'Aren't you going to the meeting today? The others have al-

The women laugh. Rasoonbee the money, and from the profit she | too. And the meeting continues.

### the meaning "to bungle". also and Latin bica. a magnie. The refer-

**Barbara Dover** 

AIRNS, Queensland: Our neighbours are real turkeys. Each year, at this time, they take over our back garden. It seems that there is no way of stopping determined male Australian brush-turkeys from building their mounds on compost heaps. The single driving force for the male to spend days moundbuilding lies in the potency of this construction - the bigger, the better -- to attract the hens with whom he will mate. And, it is in this mound that the brushturkey hen, or hens, will lay the eggs that he will dutifully and skilfully attend until the chicks hatch, some four to six weeks

later. This large rooster-sized. glossy black bird, with its deep red head and distinctive yellow neck band, is normally a forest forager but now is a familiar visitor in many local gardens.

Our other garden guests include monitor lizards (or goaimas, who are especially fond of brush-turkey eggs), agile wallabies, scrub hens (smaller and shyer than their brushturkey cousius), kookaburras. cockatoos, rails and numerous other birds and, of course, highly vocal green frogs of every shade and hue.

With bandicoots, owls and flying foxes among the night-time callers, there is never a dull

~--



provoked riots in India. Shabana Azmi (right), an MP and actor, explains why it should be shown **I** N INDIA, we prefer to think that

lesblanism doesn't exist; we push it under the carpet. Fundamentalists say it threatens the institution of marriage. They say we'll stop having babies, that it's against Indian culture, and that it's terrible to give women such ideas. So when I agreed to do Fire, I knew there would be some protest. I think in a democracy, everyone has the right to protest, but to do so with violence is totally unacceptable.

The Hindu fundamentalists' reaceous. It was a systematic attack designed to bring them media attenonly once the press arrived. But the | have not been allowed to see Fire. thing that really shocked me about the attack on the film is the fact that | film, not simply because it deals | instance, they are unquestioningly the Maharashtra Chief Minister the person who supposedly protects | that when you come across people | for more space, outside the domesthe lives and property of citizens congratulated the fundamentalists | from your own, you must empathise | know how to deal with this. because they did it to protect their | rather than condemn.



supposed to maintain law and order openly applauds vandalism, what tion, when it came, wasn't spontan- | signal is he sending out to society? The fundamentalists haven't domi- assertiveness. It is simply some the people encapsulate all the nated the entire agenda, though; thing they haven't handled before. tion. They hadn't seen the film and | there have been angry protests from | It's a question of negotiating space. started breaking the cinema to bits | people, including politicians, who | To a Western eye, Indian women | ethnic.

women than to men, who have been disturbed by it. Old-fashioned as I may sound, I have great regard for the concept of duty. In Indian culture, responsibility is an important part of one's being — it is this sense of duty that makes Indians unique. But when duty is used as a whip to push people into subservient posi-

tions, when it is a concept that is powerful, I have problems with it. wants to work at home and doesn't want to have a profession. But the

women who are ambitious. Many Indian men feel threatened by female desire because it leads to may look pretty subservient, but For me, Fire is a very important | within the space of the kitchen, for who make choices that are different | tic domain, and Indian men don't

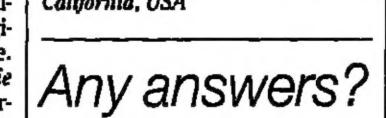
go out. If you take your own life your peers and neighbours think during the freedom struggles, you're a sad guy, but if you're women walked shoulder to shoulder killed in a confrontation with with men. But when we had the first police you go out in a blaze of The film has appealed more to parliament in 1950, those women were not represented; only 4 per cent of the MPs were women. Fifty years aged 19, drove above the speed later, only 8 per cent are women limit in New York to attract police attention. When confronted he waved what police thought was a gun. They shot him three times.

In Fire, the woman's duty is to opment issues, talking about water, procreate - which is perfectly all health, hygiene. For far too long, right if a woman decides she really | solutions to all problems have been | officers over-reacted when con-

multi-religious, multi-cultural, multi-

tradition and modernity, and the confusion of what exactly it means. with lesbianism, but because it says | the rulers. Now they are negotiating | Every single person encapsulates that contradiction and deals with h

When Gandhi mobilised people Interview by Madeleine North



// /HY are there no female

Attwood, Bacup, Lancashire

∐AS religion ever stopped a war? - Patrick Curry, London

Growing herds of wild pigs are being blamed for attacks on sheep

(() / /HAT goes around comes V V around." Does it? - Gary Lancet, Walthamstow, London

> I A IHY HAVE SNAKE oil V V salesmen become a byword Sarah Godwin, Hungerford, Berkshire

Answers should be e-mailed to weekly@guardlan.co.uk, faxed to But we observers hear the 0171/+44171-242-0985, or posted to The Guardian Weekly, 75 Farring-



CINEMA Xan Brooks

INK IS for girls, blue is for boys. The opening shot in Rowan Woods's gruelling family drama splits the frame in two. To the left lies the sky-blue hue of the Sprague family living-room, and on the right the flushed tiles of the kitchen. Dividing these colours down the middle runs a thick white wooden strip. This rigid dynamic is central to the spirit of The Boys. Its tension is the tension between men and women, between chill stasis and the heat of action, as festering Brett Sprague (David Wenham) chugs beer from the bottle and ogles daytime telly while his murderous impulses bloom inside him. For most of The Boys, anomie has the upper hand. The threat of violence, though, runs through the film like lettering through Blackpool rock.

In its native Australia, The Boys has already been hoisted up alongside Ana Kokkinos's yet-to-bereleased Head On - as evidence of within their domestic industry. I opens on the morning of Brett's | theatre. The action spans a long | Woods toys with his time-frame. In- | more than a series of gestures. | rumba which animated Africa in release from prison, having served day's journey into night, the stead of flashbacks, he gives us Glenn's girlfriend (Jeanette Cronin) the 1950s and 1960s, and the his last fag while he waits to be stage set that the players would Hours Later", "Two Days Later", box" that the family calls home. | works hard (maybe too hard) to | camcorder segments play the role Once there, the Spragues reorder | bring it to life. themselves in what one imagines to As a director, he's omnivorous. piece. In the end, we never witness be a timeless hierarchy. "We are all | Sometimes his camera is fixed and | the crime that looms on the horizon; Polson) and Stevie (Anthony Hayes) | sleek 35mm with pixellated | vellous technique. are his princelings, and mum stretches of processed video, leans at the Sprague family pile.

Graham's 1991 stage play, and at its | rhino homing in on its prey.



a harsh new social-realist vein | Split decision . . . David Wenham as Brett and Toni Collette as Michelle in The Boys

The Boys is adapted from Gordon | turns clean and sharp, like a myopic | crackle of Oldman's Deptford saga.

The source material, though, bedrock it remains a piece of filmed Most effective is the way that folk, in particular, amount to little stones.

12 months for aggravated bodily dialogue bats back and forth like a flash-forwards. The editing casts is a spiky, nagging careerist, and young man adopted the same harm. There he sits, ferret-faced on tennis match. You can almost forward at intervals, recling into the Stevie's (Anna Lise) a pathetic pil- stage name. the kerb, fishing in the packet for picture the exploded partition-wall future in ever-widening arcs ("18 low he got pregnant down the Fife and Drum. Playing Brett's own longferried back to the "red-brick shit- have moved through. Still, Woods | "Three Weeks Later"). These bitty | suffering squeeze, Toni Collette | simply chews gum and rattles tarty of prophetic nightmares within the lewellery. Meantime Lynette Cur- generation combined raw ran's Ma lounges in bed waving a fan once presented to her by Brett's gods in our own world," remarks | formal, sometimes ploughing hand- | just its pressure-cooker build-up | absent father ("the only thing 'e | ing, originating what became Brett. Younger siblings Glenn (John | held into the action. He intercuts | and ruinous aftermath. It is a mar- | ever gave me"). Blue, in other words, wins out over pink.

But for the most part The Boys (Lynette Curran) his cooing domes | heavily on slow-motion and sudden | remains a problem. The Boys has | relies on an undertow of tension. tic help. Pink walls, blue walls. The fades to black to convey menace. already been compared to Gary Old- This is the film's strength and ultikettle is on, and trouble is brewing | Shots start out blurry. Then the man's Nil By Mouth, yet this flatters | mately its weakness. Because focus knob is turned and the image | it. The dialogue boasts none of the | most drama is about resolution and

catharsis, The Boys concerns itself More crucially, the Boys' women- with the time between such mile-

> Europe and went to Japan and year, he reunited with Nyboma to record the smash Moylbi. His 1991 song celebrating footballer Roger Milla was released in est in east and west Africa.

> appealed primarily to the "market mamas" near his regular venue, Chez Maki. After a hard day these substantial ladies would relax with beer and was released in Paris last

Diadainful of the excesses o. his contemporaries, Kalle travelled by VW Beetle, a sight which, given his size, resembled a student phone box stunt. Even in London, he chose to ride in a beat-up Renault which listed perilously under his weight. h leaves a wife, Pauline, and five

Graeme Ewens

It was, without question, one of singer, born Kinshasa, December

### Africa's rumba king

OBITUARY Pepe Kalle

THE husky-voiced, giant-sized singer and handleader Pepe Kalle, who has died aged 46 of a heart attack, was known in his prime as the "Elephant of Zaire"

In the late 1980s Kalle stormed Africa and the emerging world music scene with his version of the kwasa kwasa rhythm. For several years he was one of Africa's most popular and dynamic performers. He was abnormally large, 147 kilos, and his bulk became a selling point: his stage show featured several dwarfs - notably his friend

Emauro, who entered the stage by running between Kalle's legs. Born in Leopoldville (now Kinshasa) Kabasele Yampanya started singing in the St George's School choir, where his namesake and mentor, Joseph Kabasele (Grand Kalle) had been a student. The elder Kalle popularised the Congolesc

In 1972 he joined up with the angelic-voiced alto Nyboma in Orchestre Bella Bella, a guitarbased outfit. The new rumba energy, distorted amplification and sweet, harmonious vocalisknown in the West as soukous.

In 1973 Bella Bella had a big hit with Kamale. Soon after. Kalle split with Nyboma to form Empire Bakuba, which had a massive hit with Nazoki. The key members never quit the band despite 20 years of unstable work patterns. They were the exotically named Elvis, Doris and Boeing 737 on guitars. vocalist Papy Tex, Emauro who died in 1994 — and his equally diminutive girlfriend, Jolie Bebc.

Kalle toured and recorded in Simple, straightforward, Kalle

Pepe Kalle (Kabasele Yampanya).

## Barking madly up a family tree

TELEVISION Nancy Banks-Smith

the credits of Family Affairs precise, bit the cushion her husband, Jack, was pressing over her face.

Brian Park sacked Peter Baldwin the day he arrived at Coronation Street. "A day that will be for ever engraved on my heart," says Baldwin sonorously. Evidently Park takes an instant dislike to certain characters. As Spike Milligan once said, it does save time.

in Channel 5's cap, is a soap opera about a pleasant family, the Harts, living somewhere suburban but bosky. It's bad luck for the Harts | God, you haven't got a dog.

that Park does not like a soap centred on one family.

was murdering his wife. I am rather head. Park has been a consultant sorry you asked. He crashed his car since August, which may have some while drunk and blamed her. In case she regained her memory and acting pretty strangely.") Oh, I wouldn't say that. Given the script.

Elsa's endearing reaction to these shenanigans was, "The neighbours! What must they think?"

"I don't know what's happening to this family!" said Annie Hart. I do, dear. Last week your mother was murdered. Next week your father Family Affairs, a modest feather | will commit suicide. Next month you, your husband, his father and your four children will be wiped out. I bet you're sorry you asked. Thank

To prepare for this holocaust and, perhaps, to reconcile us to it, every-You may be wondering why Jack one seems to be going off their bearing on the matter.

Angus Hart, as rational a grandad

as ever wore a pinny with a flat cap, has taken up with a fortune teller. As Coward said: "Oh dear, what ? catastrophe, Grandfather's brain is beginning to atrophy." Chris Hart, the sort of cuddly chap a teddy bear would like for Christmas, has everyone, while Annie Hart, the Earth mother, has begun to roll her

Inured to lunacy to the point of lethargy, you hardly notice the or wishing he were. arrival of Sadie, a barking-mad old

materialised in a puff of panto smoke. will look awkward when the family goes, leaving an arsonist, a drug pusher, a soft-porn model and the barking bat. To name but enough.
As young Jamie Hart said, "Hell is other people. I read it on the web site www dot afterlife dot comma.

Battersea Dogs' Home (BBC1) will run daily for seven weeks. Which is a lot of dog. I hope everyone has got the message about dogs and Christmas? Simon Callow has a Battersea lurcher (better than a gal according to the song) called Basil. "He's extremely sweet and goodnatured and kindly, if a little prone started shouting incoherently at to melancholy. He's also very beautiful, elegant and classy. He did a fantastic audition." Basil stared down his long, double-barrelled nose with an air of being elsewhere

bat ("What I can't do with a carrot is | terrier called Bill "Certain buzz nobody's business!"), who has words, which I've taught him, make

him bark. Italian! Catholic! Nuns! It was a nice little soap. The title | Protestants!" Bill would not bark at Protestants. "Ah, he likes Protestants. Don't know what way he was brought up. My family would be totally embarrassed."

Neither eclipsed Albert, a widower after 45 years of marriage, whose doctor had told him to get a lively young dog and lose some weight. Instead, he settled doggedly on Jenny, who was old and fat, "I'm gonna 'ave 'er. We've all got to get old, so why not give the dog a chance? Many a time I've sat indoors and cried me eyebalis out. Since I've 'ad 'er I've done away with a lot of that."

He changed the flowers on his wife's grave. Jenny watched with the liveliest attention. Mary's picture on the gravestone watched back. "I know my missus would be pleased with her if she was alive."

A dog fits a dog-shaped hole in your life and only the owner knows

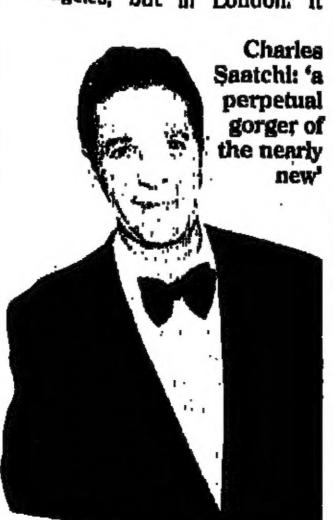
### The godfather of BritArt moves on

Why did Charles Saatchi sell part of his collection? To make way for the new, writes Gordon Burn

the beaten track into his preferred territory of Shoreditch and Hoxton, others. out east where the new lofts and warehouse spaces are, where bargains are still to be had and artists are thick on the ground.

young art star, the next new thing, chasing decisions have influenced off. He'd gone shopping again. collectors of vanguard art all over Europe and America. Being taken artist. But he still needs confidents adon refer to as his "sniffer he has always wanted that.

year, that is to say, since the Sensa-Royal Academy. Subtitled "Young aged 32, in 1993. British Artists From the Saatchi Collection", Sensation was testimony not only to Saatchi's collecting



HARLES SAATCHI went included landmark pieces by shopping earlier this month. He blew into a handful of Sarah Lucas and Jenny Saville, as galleries in and around London's | well as significant work by Marc | West End. He also went further off Quinn, Gary Hume, Chris Ofili, Richard Billingham and a dozen

It was a triumph. It was a scandal and a blockbuster and earned Saatchi many thousands of columninches. During the installation of Saatchi's nose for the coming the show, Saatchi was apparently very handson, but by the time the s legendary. For a decade his pur- doors opened to the public, he was One of the essays in the cata-

logue to the Sensation exhibition up by Saatchi has become one of the was written by Maloney, who also conditions of success for any young | had some of his own bright, blustery paintings in the show. In it he and guides: what some people in gave an overview of the developments that had resulted in what was dogs", if he wants to be first — and coming to regarded as one of the collection that was sold last week for £45,000 PHOTO: GARRY WEASER most talented group of artists to The artist and writer Martin emerge in Britain since the second | collections of conceptual art, mini- | goes shopping in the middle," laloney has been Saatchi's regular | world war. He was well-placed to do | mal art, New Expressionist paint | Emma Dexter says. "I don't want ompanion on his shopping expedithis: like Damien Hirst, Abigali Lane ing, "Bad" painting, Arte Povera, him to get there first." tions in the past 12 months. In the and many of the others, Maloney Neo-Geo, and the painters of the But one inevitable result of the had been a student at Goldsmiths' exhibition opened at London's | College in London. He had left, them when the market showed funded by the sale of works from

mood grabbed him. After Goldsmiths', Maloney turned his flat into a gallery called Lost in Space. He put on a series of is his fevered, scattergun approach get to the best students, faster. acumen but also to the fact that the shows of what he called Wannabe that is the most persistent criticism Successful applicants for Saatchi best art of the 1990s hadn't been | art — art that signalled a return to | of him as a collector. It can present | Young Artists' Sponsorship Bur-Made in New York or Cologne or the hand-made and the un-ironically particular problems for a publicly saries "will be awarded a show at Angeles, but in London. It beautiful and whose kitsch, even funded institution like the Institute | the Saatchi Gallery and will join the camp, qualities were a reaction to of Contemporary Arts, which tends | Saatchi Collection". Charles | the young BritArtists' brutal, oi-oi, | to work with younger, emerging Saatchl: 'a in-your-faceness. This was going to artists at just the point when Saatchi for the first time has declared himbe the new direction for art, Mal- wants to pick them up. oney told anybody who would listen. And somebody who did was Emma Dexter, commissioned Saatchi. The YBA's were aggres- Maloney to curate the ICA's current

sive, gloomy, doomy. Whereas the | show, Die Young Stay Pretty, a | 100 other artists from the collection artists Maloney was gathering showcase for New Neurotic Real underlines his impatience to move about him were into "softness, ism, over a year ago. romanticism, a day-dreamy beauty". There was less snarling, less has published a glossy, large-format | find the NNR book a misjudgment complaining, more smiling. Soon NNR manifesto and announced the and an embarrassment; evidence Saatchi could be overheard telling exhibition Neurotic Realism: Part | that perhaps it isn't so easy to people that Maloney was a genius. One (featuring Maloney, among engineer change - to invent the Saatchi, in Christopher Booker's | others) for January. Several of the | history of British art before it has prescient phrase, is a neophiliac: a | artists in Die Young Stay Pretty who | even happened. perpetual gorger of the briefly new; | weren't already in Saatchi's colleca junkle for shift and change and tion have been added to it in the his vulnerability is more clear than forward propulsion. Over the years | past 12 months.

Sensation . . . Jenny Saville's Prop, part of Charles Saatchi's

School of London, only to disperse student bursaries that are to be itself favourable for re-sale, or as the | the Saatchi collection which went under the hammer at Christies last Saatchi likes to buy in bulk but it | week is that Saatchi will be able to

With Neurotic Realism. Saatchi self the author of a movement and The ICA's director of exhibitions, the booster of a new, "tinsel-camp" aesthetic. The Christies sale of work by Hirst, Saville, Whiteread and

Since then, the Saatchi Gallery | But he is already rumoured to

"It is one of those moments when at any other time," one dealer says. he has amassed museum-class "I can't help it if Charles Saatchi "If he is wrong, he may suffer."

# Saatchi sale

DUMOURS of the death of BritArt proved to be premature last week, as the muchawaited sale of parts of Charles Snatchi's private collection realised £1.6 million, writes Dan Glaister. Three recent Turner orize winners - Damien Hirst, Rachel Whiterend, and Chris Ofili - all performed strongly in the sale, although one of the top prices was paid for a work by the comparatively obscure German artist Thomas Schütte.

The sale of more than 100 works by more than 100 artists by the most influential art collector in Britain had been taken as an indication that the recent boom in contemporary British art, largely fuelled by Saatchi's acquisitiveness, was coming to

But a combination of low prices for some of the lesserknown artists, convincing hype. and an enthusiasm for the work among collectors and City-based buyers meant that rather than undermining confidence in contemporary British art, the sale has probably served to strengthen the sector.

This, of course, will be a boon to Mr Saatchi, whose collection remains the largest and most important. Although the big names were all represented in the sale. it was also an opportunity for Mr Saatchi to dispose of many of the smaller and less important works in his collection.

There was a palpable frisson at the sale, held in a disused warchouse in east London, when a self-portrait by the painter Jenny Saville fetched £45,000 against an estimate of £10,000 to £15,000.

A spot painting by Damlen Hirst sold for £122,500 against an estimate of £20,000 to £25,000. The Americans, with a few exceptions, have not shown great enthusiasm for the output of the YBAs. That left the sale open to a clutch of private European collectors, several from Germany, Otherwise, the sale seemed to be a playground for blue chip buyers.

The proceeds will go towards establishing bursaries for young artists. Mr Saatchi professed himself delighted with the results.

# **Eddie Glbb**

POP CONCERT

DOD STEWART bounced on to The stage in Glasgow in a sher- Oasis's Cigarettes And Alcohol and bert-yellow shirt and announced that | particularly Primal Scream's Rocks there were 27 songs to get through, | — suited his cheery pub rock so we'd all better hurry along.

the crowd was still doing overhead hand claps while The Star sprinted | hear Rod sing the hits. They got the length of the stage as if it was | 'em. Hot Legs, Young Turks, | part of the final concert in a series | meaning from the text brought back Occasionally, Rod would stop to The Deepest; all followed in a execute a star-jump, jog on the spot, steady stream as Rod dipped into sopranos of the 20th century, Fassor do some ill-advised Ninja leg | the bag marked "crowd pleasers". | baender officially retired from | by Martyn Brabbins, was just as | Bakuba, Kalle's records, with of waggles that we will call "dancing". Perspiration was much in evidence, thus the shirt changes.

understatement; worked out would able, given Rod's trademark gim- choosing Pierrot for her return - its flute and cello solos rooted in he more like it. Perhaps this is what | mick of kicking plastic balls into the | the piece requires no genuine | Mahlerian darkness and lyricism. living in Beverly Hills does to a | crowd, while giant video screens re- "singing", because of Schoenberg's man. It might also account for his layed footage of the Tartan Army. demand that his performer speak | Fassbaender brought with her a muscle-bound backing band of LA | With a pad in California and another | the notes at an annotated pitch - | young protégé, the South African rawkers — goatees, headbands, in Essex, Rod finds expression for but even so, she was visibly de mezzo Michelle Breedt, who sang though Rod played hits spanning | tribal allegiance. So when he says | performance left us in no doubt that | Gesellen in Schoenberg's arrangenearly 30 years, most of them he's a rocker, he is talking through both her remarkable voice and ment for chamber ensemble. She sounded the same. And the band was perfectly suited to providing the sound track for a hair care ad.

#### drum. All of which is a shame, be CLASSICAL CONCERT cause Rod himself looked chipper for a man half his age. And he still

cuts it in the tonsil department. Two of his borrowed songs stonip. Subtle they were not, but | Brigitte Fassbaender back to Lon-

Two hours and three shirts later, neither were the originals. Rhythm Of My Heart, First Cut Is | devoted to the music of fin de siècle | memories of her extraordinary

> ex-pat as hyper-pat — he regards | stage direction and teaching. his parentage through football's lighted to be back on stage, and her Mahler's Lieder Eines Farhrenden

Rod is showbiz, an entertainer who employs nostalgia and kitsch in "I'm a rocker at heart," insisted | equal measure to create a shared | ambivalent Madonna of the Deca-Rod as he cranked up Stay With Me, | experience of the present. This was | dent in Imagination, is crazily witty lost in the thump of the big bass I from the kids to relive the seventies. | piece as a comedy — arguably one | the great Wigmore Hall evenings. | 30, 1951; died November 29, 1998

### Hot Rod's night at the panto | Winning way with words

Tim Ashley

THIS was a formidable evening and a remarkable achievement. Someone — exactly who remains a mystery - managed to coax Vienna. One of the greatest mezzo-

Fassbaender's Pierrot, contemplating the diseased moon and the

Lieder recitals.

The Nash Ensemble, conducted the raucous ambience of Empire As an Anglo-Scot — not so much | singing in 1995 to devote her time to | much of a revelation. Pierrot is | without Bakuba, were always known as a masterpiece of instru- popular. His latest CD Cocktail playing Glasgow as a home game. It could be argued that she gave | mentation, but I was struck by the To say Rod worked would be an The football metaphor is unavoid- herself something of a let-out in beauty of much of the writing, with

with a hint of Fassbaender's own

of the blackest ever written — and fills the meandering vocal lines with a tremendous palette of tone colour the United States in 1988. That that veers from gleeful delight to rasping horror then to a nostalgic, uneasy sensuality in the final sec-

There were echoes of her great operatic interpretations, notably her don's Wigmore Hall for a perfor- performance as Strauss's deranged The audience had paid 40 quid to mance of Schoenberg's Pierrot Klytennestra in Elektra, while her Lunaire with the Nash Ensemble as ability to tease every shred of

There were other treats as well. a vent in his tight spangly trousers. phenomenal artistry remain in tact. hasn't got Fassbaender's way with words, but she does have a gorgeous voice, big, rich and thrilling,

twanginess in the lower registers.

### Renaissance man

Michael Bracewell

Why We Got the Sack from the by David Shrigley Redstone Press £9.95 pbk

∧ S AN ARTIST whose chosen is crudely drawn cartoons with accompanying texts and slogans which make hilarious short stories of each completed illustration, David Shrigley articulates the daily experience of fear, anxiety, boredom or rage in a visual language that is at once poetic and | crimes. Beginning with "I'm sorry |

The breadth of his vision, arguably, is Renaissance in its ambition, seeking to accomplish nothing less than a depiction of the whole of human hope and suffering beneath the eyes of a jealous and wrathful | balanced on a sense of self-concept

And, as if to announce the moral climate of the perilous and lonely world which his drawings describe. | this collection of Shrigley's drawand "Don't Know" beneath the armed, goat-horned thug in a dress, nating of these moral ciphers.

though he was Aubrey Beardsley's | depictions of states of mind. And, belligerent brother, illustrating a more often than not, the sequences monologue by Eddie Izzard while of the drawings are punctuated by a the editor of a local newspaper, ext Matt Groening. So far, his reputaare the response to a largely frus- you? Just trying to be different, eh? of painful amateurism, describing stick men taking the paintings of trating and shabby world.

There is a sense in which Shrigley is drawing from the point | what looks like the outline of the | sense, and the constant possibility of view of a person who has had to | coffee cup with the word "The" and | of eternal judgment on our most walk home from the bus stop in the rain just once too often, assailed by \ dle of it. petty irritations which become a

Alex Clark

Resentment

by Gary Indiana

Quariet 358pp £10 pbk

**E\_BOW** SCABROUS, how un-

seemly, how morally bankrupt,

to enfold true crime in the comfort-

ingly stylish and stylised cloak of

definition of Shrigley's aesthetic and world view could be found in a sculpture which he made in 1991, and which consisted of an old cardboard box placed on a piece of wasteland, with a little door cut out of it and the words "Leisure Centre" written in uneven capital letters

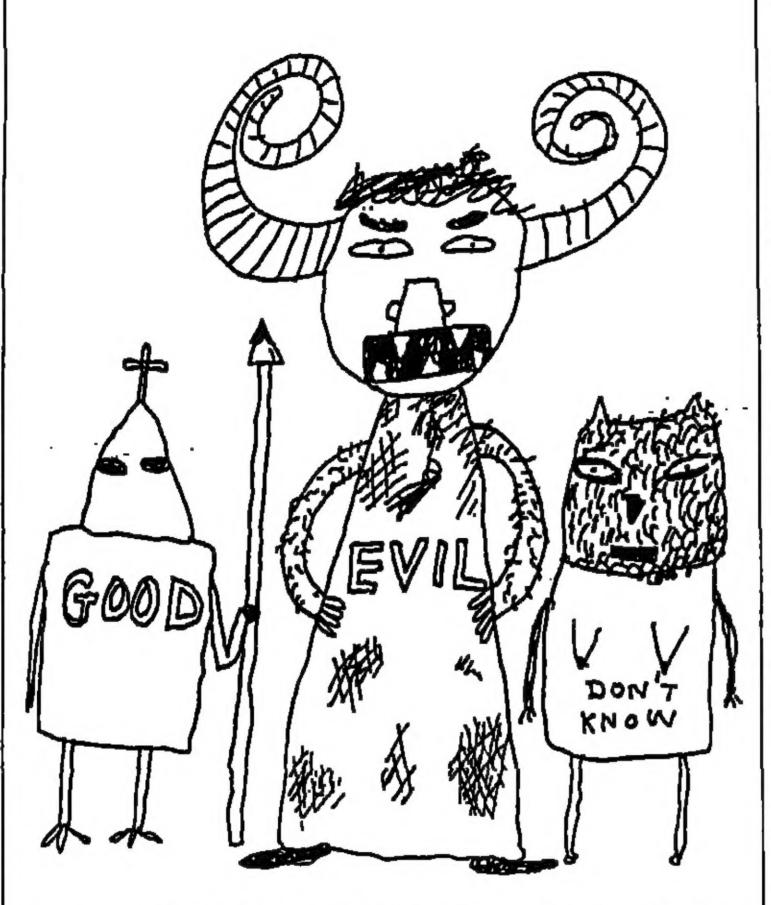
Similarly, in Why We Got The Sack From The Museum there is a drawing entitled "I'm Sorry . . . which is comprised of a succession of small panels, each one of which contains a statement of the artist's pissed down the chimney of the doll's house", and concluding with a general apology for "my cowardly persecution of the weak and defenceless", Shrigley is offering self-portrait in which the contedy is in which the artist is both the villain and the victim.

Will Self, in his introduction to

Shrigley commences this latest colings, suggests that, "... these are lection of his work with a badly | not, in fact, drawings of things at all; drawn picture of three allegorical rather, they are drawings of the creatures depicting "Good", "Evil" | shapes that things, people, ideas and emotions make in our lives". words "Time To Choose". A hairy- The accuracy of this analysis can be seen in the manner through which. "Evil" is the tallest and most domi- time and time again. Shrigley elevates what are seemingly neurotic Stylistically, Shrigley draws as or violent doodles into maps or These comments are written above in situations which make no moral something crossed out in the mid-

Like a person who sends offi- | Shrigley's drawings is what might

TO CHOOSE TIME



trivial and absurd of acts.

But the sheer comic brilliance of measure of purgatory on earth. A | clous or incomprehensible letters to | turn him into Britain's answer to | but have always longed to express.

fearing for the safety of his soul. In direct address to the readers, as in: pecting engagement or dialogue on tion has been made within the world this present collection, the blunt "Why do you find my drawings so their own terms, Shrigley's draw- of contemporary art, and in many Fay Weldon (Flamingo, £6.99) punk humour of Shrigley's work de- annoying? Are you some kind of ings exist in the singular world of ways his drawing "Why We got the picts a view of the human condition moron with freakish tastes? Every- their own sealed vision. They revel Sack from the Museum" — which in which rage, nihilism and self-pity one else likes them so why don't in a brilliant exploitation of the idea depicts a group of poorly drawn I always knew you were a twat." | both the pointlessness of moralising | the walls and standing on them -

Shrigley's art, like a psychotic | 22 novels. Certainly these stories version of Matt Groening's "Life In Hell" cartoons, gives a voice to dashed-off quality that probably those aspects of ourselves that we most fear and try to keep hidden.

community. A defence lawyer talks (Pan, £5.99) now a phone-in host on drive-time | the courtroom. Everyone in LA is | racy, Latinists will be sad to hear, is demands of court life to parody any talk about the effects of abuse on springs, "and it sure ain't sulphur." children, but afflicted with the ran- | Ain't that the veritas.

What America is all about, its peointractable neuroses, is Indiana's deep inside them, smeared with his pentantly scathing in its dissection faeces. Or Dorls Spree, compul- of LA as the most currently obvious

Paperback fiction Carrie O'Grady

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, trs Keith Harrison (Oxford World's Classics, £5,99)

 □ IR GAWAIN, apparently, was ! the Kevin Bacon of the 14th century: there was hardly an epic tale that didn't have him as its star. This, though, is his finest hour, and Keith Harrison's eloquent translation gives the tale its full due. When King Arthur's New Year revels are interrupted by a sizeable green man perched on an equally daunting green horse. Gawain bravely enters into a fateful bargain to save the honour of the Court. The grace and rhythm of this modern-English translation make it perfect to read aloud; children could well find it irresistible at bedtime.

Researching Oblivion, by Scott Murfin (Spout Publications, £4)

ANY book jackets nowadays IVI tout writers as being "cutting edge", "the next Irvine Welsh", and so on. Readers seeking the genuine much worse than pick up this collection of stories by Scott Murfin, a Sheffield writer. The working-class voices here are jagged and often. dark with despair, but there is more real feeling here than in many of the grittier-than-grit novels, and more talent as well. To order this book, call (+44) (0)1484 452070.

A Hard Time to Be a Father, by

A AS WELDON'S "By the same author" list is threatening to spill out beyond the flyleaf and overwhelm the acknowledgements page: she is credited with no fewer than light, for the most part - houses that choose their inhabitants, affairs that end without tears - and filled with a gentle, genteel humow. "Being HETEROSEXUAL he stuck out like a sore thumb," runs one is enough here to keep a bright

HIS detective novel begins with Todd's feisty heroine of ancient Rome, Claudia Seferius, framed for Claudia. In fact the language throughout is so slangy as to be indistinguishable from a string of

I Could Read the Sky, by Timothy O'Grady and Steve Pyke (Panther, £6.99)

THIS is a stark, heartbreaking story of an Irish labourer's life ace, but the novel is luminous, it from within by a cloudy, uncertain site of sickness, is his finest book to date. faces and scenes are scattered throughout, as haunting a record of lives lived under the yoke of time as the novel itself.

In your dreams

J & Ballard

The Penguin Book of Hollywood edited by Christopher Silvester Penguin 696pp £25

EHIND its cameras, Holly-wood has always been far more exotle and bizarre than anything it projected on to the world's cinema screens. The steady flow of well-made melodramas that shaped the dreams of the 20th century was generated by one of the strangest communities ever to assemble in the suburbs of a small provincial city. For decades, an endless troupe of fur salesmen and raree-show hustlers, hat-check girls and bored newspapermen made the long trek to the edge of the Western world, where they found little more than a semi-desert of orange groves and crumbling pueblos.

Once there, though, they created humanity has ever known, not merely the dreams that money can buy, but perhaps the last secular religion to be shared by everyone on our planet, from Singapore taxi-Gobi, camping in their goatskin a satellite dish that sucks the magic ; of Hollywood out of the sky.

one of the greatest mythic systems | Marilyn Monroe on the set of the Misfits with her coach Paula Strasberg about the film capital, a superb | been one of Hollywood's oldest | pot." Money flowed like light. anthology culled from autobiogra- traditions. phies, inter-office memos, letters them a large number who created should all make a killing in this busi-

PHOTOGRAPH EVE ARNOLD MAGNUM

"Don't economise any more," Otto Perhaps success came too easily. Preminger announced, dissatisfied and telegrams. Not surprisingly, the and those early pioneers who de with the second-rate. "I can't afford anthology is a feast both for those | fined our notions of glamour, fame | it." Money paid for the creation of who love Hollywood and those who and beauty were astonished that the star system, in many ways tents with a portable generator and hate it, though it is remarkable how they could do so simply by shining a Hollywood's greatest achievement, many people have loathed it, among flickering light on a wall. "We a firmament of magical figures who. in many ways, were as ordinary as The Penguin Book Of Hollywood | the product they so despise. Biting | ness," Irving Thalberg remarked. | ourselves, discovered while driving is a vast compendium of writings | the hand that writes the cheque has | "There is so much money in the | elevators or working behind per- | £20 contact CultureShop

fume counters. They had no pretensions to in-born aristocracy, but on the Hollywood screen became luminous beings who could outshine the sun. "A film star never catches a cold," an aide of the sniffly Miriam Hopkins stated firmly. "She always gets pneumonia,"

Ben Hecht, a hugely successful screenwriter, lamented that "the movies are one of the bad habits that corrupted our century . . . the movies are a gaudier version of religion." But it was that gaudiness the audiences loved. Even Hollywood's blunders, such as the 1963 version of Cleopatra, had a Homeric scale that seemed to justify them. The best section of this anthology is the testimony of Cleopatra's producer, Walter Wanger, sacked and reinstated like most everyone else.

As the budget escalated from \$1 million to \$37 million, the executives were beset by a host of problems, not least the stars' changing accents. Viewing the rushes, Wanger and his director noticed how Elizabeth Taylor's diction had improved since her affair with Richard Burton. He, in turn, was beginning to sound like Elizabeth's one-time husband, the crooner Eddie Fisher, leading the executives to worry about Burton's "Bronx-like and uncultivated tone" But what does it matter, as another Hollywood producer explained: "If Paul Newman comes in and says he wants to play Gertrude Lawrence in Star!, you do it; that's the nature of

book at the special price of

### The anarchist hidden between the lines

red and Madge, The Visitors,

Nck Hern 165pp £12.99 and 194pp

Half the world's gay nowadays." are early examples of Orton's ear | and Lewis Carroll's logic. for dialogue - often picked up on of men). The collaged result was a Carry On and Ban the Bomb rein-

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MADGE: I'm all against it myself, | ("She looks as though she had QUEENIE: If you read between

There's a lot of reading between | Way; the first world war veteran the lines to be done in Orton's work. | rejecting the patriotic sacrifice with PEADING these books on the Fred And Madge was his first play, which he is de facto credited. The essays, people don't live life so written in 1957 after he and Ken- Visitors is one long moan. Yet Cockneys discussing the TV soap | neth Halliwell had decided to sepa- | beneath it all is the sense that there rate their literary (but not, lies some hidden meaning for which poofters," said one dame with a tragically, their personal) relation- these characters search. "But then opposite. "It's disgusting," the other in a nether region somewhere be- between," as Nurse Brown says. rent on, "parading about like that. | tween Beckett and Bennett. Its dialogue is its principal entertainment,

Orton wrote entire dialogue ex-Sort of post-war welfare state of changes — the surreal juxtaposition of overheard conversations and his through Orton's perverse own quirky obsessions — before she's ensuared by Lottie, the lesbian only true act of consciousness the plays themselves, adding in the | white-slaver, and loses her heart to | anybody ever knows. lines as and when it occurred to the "angry young man" Bob MADGE: Her auntie's hubby is him. Here are the seeds of the later | Kennedy, a blond dreamboat who | where books and life intersect. Some kind of relation of her Orton plays which would meld the chalks "Yanks go home" on walls. Armed with quotations from new heterosexual sensibilities of the | There is a real world out there, but | Yeats and Nietzsche, he tackles OUEENIE: Do you think that's angry young men (Osborne, Pinter) not for Susan Hope, not even when the formidable chaos of his with those of a gayer generation, in Hollywood, where her eyes are daughters' bedroom, and not least of all Noël Coward — act | opened to the world she worshipped, | wonders how old a man must one of Fred And Madge is an ex- and she discovers that Seth grow before he starts being out-

tended pastiche of Private Lives. ing daughter and tyrannical nurses | subtle anarchy starts to fade.

though they seem to be manag- | starch for breakfast"). The dialogue has a wonderfully banal rhythm. endlessly turning back on itself. Into this Orton drops his anarchy: the black nurse reading Swann's

lighter confection, the diary of a sets out to explore whether Fred And Madge and The Visitors reminiscent of Oscar Wilde's wit fifties chorus girl as she progresses from "Rainiers' Revue Bar" in Soho | the world at all. Perhaps they It is a pop-cultural world of TV to a Mexican whorehouse and Public transport (along with a series advertising and tabloid royals: global fame care of Hollywood's version of its pre-war self.

> O'Hagan and the other boys who distanced by his children. He In her fascinating introductions | "took off their shirts on every occa- takes a trip to the European to these books, Francesca Coppa | sion to show tanned shoulders" | Parliament with some fellow makes clear the lineage from Wilde | were, in fact, "fairies in disguise". As | language teachers and a Penguin to Firbank and Orton; a gay literary | Mrs Hunt warns her about Seth: | edition of Plato's Republic, while awareness which Halliwell engen- "He'll warm the pot, Susan, but | pondering both the nature of dered in the autodidact Orton, and | there isn't going to be any tea." Be | utopias, and the appropriatewhich Orton took to an extreme. In | tween Us Girls is a sly, subversive | ness of his train car's nickname. Orton's world, every scene and line | little text for its time. Its ancestors | the "Shag Wagon". And he has a double, 'if not a triple, mean- are Waugh and Mitford. As to confronts the disheartening ing. The Visitors, the second early | Orton's heirs? Well, some might cite | complacency of V S Nainaul at a play now published for the first | Helen Fielding or Jonathan Harvey; | literary conference, which time, is darker in tone: a dying man | but in a world overtaken by the | causes him to recall his own in a hospital terrorised by his visit- | ironic and the in-your-face, Orton's | apprenticeship in an Acton bed-

### Affairs of the heart

Scott Bradfield

Adultery and Other Diversions Secker 184pp £12.99

A CCORDING to this smart, beautifully written book of about it. Stories about faithfulness and infidelity, love and tight perm. "That's life," replied her ship, it's an absurdist three-acter set there are so many lines to read redemption and loss. Taking his lead from Schopenhauer, novel-Between Us Girls is an ostensibly | ist and travel writer Tim Parks people ever actually "experience" simply inherit ideas about it, and live their lives accordingly. In other words, interpretation may Helpless in the face of the fate | be much more than a feat of crit-Orton has in store, along the way | ical acrobatics. It may be the

Parks reflects on the spaces sit in the eighties, pounding out himself likes it or not.

These are literary essays with all the clarity and sensual detail of great fiction. Even the most philosophical speculations are made urgent by Parks's concern for those whose lives he uses to exemplify them. As the book's title makes clear, Parks's primary focus is the idea of marriage itself. As he argues in "Destiny" the "family" isn't necessarily something people construct. Sometimes it's an idea which grabs hold of them and never lets go: "The parents of my own sister-in-law married, divorced, remarried, then divorced again. The mind is liquid, fickle . . . And indeed it may well be that secretly we seek nothing more of marriage than to be securely locked away there, as many, entering some extravagant new supermarket will close their minds and trust

novels nobody wanted to publish.

to old brand loyalties." The son of evangelicals in northern England who now lives most of the year in Italy, Parks writes well about men and women creating their own traditions. But the most startling thing about his first book of essays is that most of them reflect upon the sort of rarefied topics that most intelligent readers spend their lives avoiding, and some might easily bear knotty titles such as "The Role of Metaliction in the Contemporary Family". Yet despite such familiar subjects, the candour and clarity of Parks's prose makes this book as absorbing as any novel or travel-memoir. Life, filled with mess and convolutions, is always in it, spilling out at the seams. Whether Parks

munal fiction, complete with their own absurdity, pathos and satire. In- | travels from New York to LA to | telephone conversations with the in- | date.

apparent chaos of celebrity jurispru-

the second second

gaze of the fiction writer.

Bleed will remember. Resentment is 355 pages of some of the most densely written, most fatiguing,

teenage brothers accused of mur- | ducing prose you might ever read. | the edge of sanity, addicted to con- | try by television. None of these dering their parents - by shower- | Conversation, where it appears, is | tinuous self-scanning for patho- communities sustains their meming them in a hail of shotgun bullets | punishingly true to the bagginess | logies. Jack fashioning himself as | bers, none of them coheres, having as they watched It's A Wonderful | and inanity of real life, lengthy pas- | Ophelia, talking endlessly to him- | been infected by a sort of paranoid Life in the family's rumpus room — sages of the closest and most self, JD mired in drink, Seth relent- exhibitionism. The expert witness cliches, "Something stinks here, and call it a novel. To borrow the cirpainfully accreted descriptive detail lessly exoskeletal and with only the called towards the end of the trial to Claudia," mutters Orbilio at the hot current and the mutters of cumstances of the murders, the tri- are separated by a few incompetent als, the defence and the prosecution | dots, rogue italics splash down in | sort of daily routine. cases, to quickly magic Erik and | pages of otherwise unadorned writ-Lyle Menendez into Carlos and ing, a piece of testimony proceeds than the grisly parade of the truly Felix Martinez. But as Gary Indiana for a dozen pages without punctua- lunatic through the novel, the most points out in the defiant repudiation | tion. In this syntactical free-for-all, | terrifying a murderous, stuttering of Resentment as roman-à-clef at the | the subject matter is equally un- | rent boy, by chance one of Seth and beginning of this book, recent governable, a fabulous carnival of Jack and JD's circle, entrancing | ple, its media, its darkest and most quaint and inadequate that phrase seems — such as the Menendez and the Simpson trials have already and the sential property and the senting in the senting them on their final journey with a serrated steak knife thrust ment, endlessly inventive and unrelated in the senting in the senting them on their final journey with a serrated steak knife thrust ment, endlessly inventive and unrelated in the senting and the Simpson trials have already | opening it out into one broad been elevated to the status of com- stretch of chaos.

Making it easy has never been

Indiana's style, not for himself, and those who have ventured into his

diana's aim, rather, is to submit the | cover the Martinez trials and to in | carcerated Carlos Martinez, or the terview a movie star named Teddy | trial's judge, ranging his gavel, his | If you would like to order this book dence, the banality of the crimes, | Wade, who is hitting the headlines | papers, his pens, according to his | at the special price of £7 contact the obsessional attitudinising of the | because he played a gay man dying | quasi-Masonic rituals, all the while | CultureShop (see ad on page 29)

America and its intractable neuroses protagonists, to the more rigorous | of Aids. As it transpires, Seth's at-

tendance at the trials seems to be motivated more by personal curios- by the Martinez boys. ity than a concrete commission, certainly not for his readers, as | while his celeb interview is destined for Condé Nast. Seth, low on cash secthing novel Rent Boy or any of and deserted by his boyfriend, the elegantly angry essays in Let It | hooks up with a former lover called Jack, who has recently tested HIVpositive, and with his old friend JD. most excessive and most retch-in- radio. Each of these characters is on | joined to everyone else in the coun-

Yet how much better off they are It's a simple plot: journalist Seth | sively masturbating during illicit

blackmailing Teddy Wade's wife. And all these ingenious dysfunctions simply mirror the one at the line, "but never mind all that." There heart of the trial, the massive history of abuse mounted as a defence | teenage girl enraptured for weeks.

One of Indiana's main themes is | Man Eater, by Marilyn Todd of the abuse community that existed in the Martinez household. Seth. Jack and JD belong, at times, to the gay community. Seth at times to the community of journalists who circle dom deployment of obscenity that accompanies Tourette's syndrome.

seems one of the more socially acceptable characters.

Halcyon days of winter

Paul Evans

HESE are the halcyon days. According to Virgil the 14 halcyon days began on December 11, with seven days before and seven after the winter solstice, when solar and lunar time were roughly synchronised at the dying of the year. It was at this time that the Mediterranean was expected to be calm enough for the halcyon, or hawk, to make her nest on the surface of the sea. Other authors identify the halcyon as the razorbill, a dark seabird seen skimming over the sea from the western Mediterranean to the North Atlantic. During the winter razorbills leave the rocky shoreline and take to the open sea, toughing out the worst weather until next year's breeding season. In mythology the halcyon is a manifestation of the moon-goddess who, at the winter sol-

stice, represents Death-in-Life. Far inland, in this corner of Shropshire, the halcyon calm is brought about by a lunar presence and a spectacular hoar frost. Last night was a cracker. The sky cleared, a huge moon swung out of the far woods and the temperature dropped to at least -5C. Children in Much Wenlock were pouring water on to the car-park asphalt and skidding on their anoraks into the public lavatory

wall - an ancient custom. This morning the puddles are solid in a white-over world. The frost stays razor-sharp in the shadow cast by the wooded Wenlock Edge down to the valley. The Wrekin, the distant hills and the Shropshire Plain are vivid in a bright, cold, winter glow. But here, under the hanging wood, it's like looking out of a frozen pond.

To get to the light means scrambling up the hill, to where the sun is stuck in a blazing rut. low in the east. Sun and moon are poised opposite each other, holding a precarious balance on the ice slide between day and night. Birds are creaking as they thaw slightly. Mixed tribes of tits and finches go pinging around hedges in the hungry hope of finding something wriggling to eat. Some hope. Earthworms, slugs and snails

can freeze solid. Invertebrates, hiding under leaves, logs, stones and inside hollow stems must also remain at the same temperature as the surrounding environment. If ice crystals form inside their cells they will die, but many survive freezing conditions by supercooling. Insect blood has high concentrations of sodium, potassium and chloride ions which prevents ice crystals from growing and rupturing cell walls.

Many invertebrates produce glycerol, which acts as antifreeze, enabling them to survive

extreme sub-zero temperatures and then magically to spring to life in a thaw - a great example of the Death-in-Life metaphor of the winter moon goddess.

Badgers, bats and hedgehogs extend the same metaphor into hibernation, lowering their body temperatures, slowing their heartbeats, shutting down to a mere twitch of life. The badgers will have taken to the cozy bracken-lined cellars of their setts below the woodland floor. Bats are roosting in hollow trees and in house lofts, and hedgehogs have snuffled under leaf piles, lost in spiky dreams. Those who have to stay above ground must cope with the cold.

The landscape tingles with a harsh inaudible breath. Clouds of steam struggle out of the power station cooling towers and hang in lumps. The morning moon is thin, of the same wispy consistency as the cirrus clouds. Dark immutable branches of an oak reach moonwards. Across the land a glacial shadow, cleansing and gleefully cruel, digs its knuckles into roots and mulch, grinding at every surviving speck of life. It's as if the moon's rolling wane has acuffed off a freezing powder,

dusting the landscape. The sun

round the sky on its arse, leav-

ing the world to the cold chari-

ties of the moon and the lunacy

seems happy to go skidding

of its puritanical values.

Chess Leonard Barden

A SIANS took the honours in the world Under-20 junior championships at Calicut, India, where Kazak and a Vietnamese won gold medals, China got a silver, and another Vietnamese tied for third.

The Saltek England team began was their best score. Overall, England juniors won two golds and a bronze in this year's world and European age group championships (Under-20 to Under-10). This is well above the average for recent years and speaks highly of the value of Saitek's new £10,000 sponsorship.

One move spoilt it for England at Calicut; Miroslav Houska began with 3/3 and could have taken a wins. clear lead with this game.

M Houska v H Banikas

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 c5 6 d5 0-0 7 Nf3 Houska prepared the sharp Four Pawns Attack pre-game, but he didn't know that Banikas had written a book on this very system. a6 8 a4 e5 9 fxe5 Ng4 10 exd6 f5 11 exf5 Bxf5 12 Be2 Qxd6 13 g3 Nxh2?! 14 Rxh2 Qxg3+ 15

17 Rf2l keeps White's extra piece after Bg4 18 Ne4 or 17 . . . Bd4 18 Nxd4 Bc2 19 Nxc2 Rxf2 20 Be3. Qf4+? Giving White another chance, 16 Ke1 Qg3+ 17 Kd2? Bxc3+! Now Black gains decisive material. 18 bxc3 Be4 19 Qf1 Rxf3 20 Bxf3 Qxh2+ 21 Qe2 to move) needed a draw to ensure whiten lasted a total of 16 more as a whole. Certainly Taylor thinks Qf4+ 22 Resigns.

Koneru Humpy (1997 world Under-10 and 1998 world Under-12 girl champion) against much older rivals proved a great success. Harikrishna beat an IM in the first round, the French GM Igor Nataf in round nine, and missed the IM norm by only half a point in round 10; while No 2553: 1 Rg6. If Kxg6 2 g4 h5 3 Humpy was on top board in round nine and finished with 7/13.

K Sasikiran v H Banikas

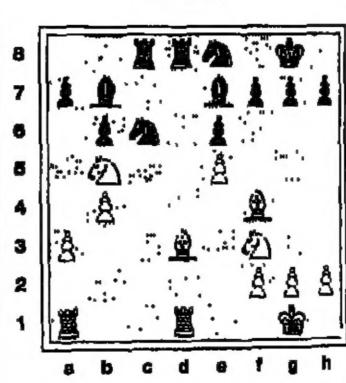
1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 No Four Pawns Attack today, g6 3 Bg5 Bg7 4 Nbd2 0-0 5 c3 d6 6 e4 c5 7 Qc7 10 Qe2 h6 11 Bxf6 exf6? A after Bxf6 White has just a small

12 Nh4! Homing in on g6 and f7. Ne7 13 f4 Re8 14 Rael Bd7 White invests a knight, then a rook, to expose the BK. gxh4 18 exf6

Bxf6 19 Rxe7! Bxe7 20 Qg6+

Elinton at golf. Or Australia Kh8 21 Qxh6+ Resigns. If Kg8 22

No 2554



Milan Vidmar v Jose Capablanco, San Sebastian 1911. A puzzle to test vour defensive skills: Capa (Black, with an inept edge, and of the general mindset of the team first prize in his first international limites. It left Alec Stewart, the so, "I have to say I think they are India's daring experiment of tournament. White threatens 1 Ndb | India's daring experiment of tournament. White threatens 1 Ndb | India's captain, unbeaten on 63 | intimidated down the order," he Nxd6 2 exd6 Bxd6 3 Bxd6 Rxd6 4 3 a frenetic and not entirely said in his post-match emphoria. youngest talents, 12-year-old Bxh7+ and 5 Rxd6 as well as the minings. Pentyala Harikriahna (1996 world simple 1 Be4 followed by Nxa7. Pas here are no more gags, no more Mark Ramprakash have batted sive defence would enable Vidnar to build on his space advantage.

Capa found the best counter, which led to a speedy draw and launched a glittering career which brought him the world title. Can you

15+ Kh6 4 g5 mate. If 1 . . . Kh4 2 N66 h53 Ng4 hxg4 4 Rh6 mate.

## Ashes elude England again

m on a sparkling Adelaide afterspalling six Ashes series in a row. The end, as so often these days,

Cricket Third Test: Australia v England

खंडांश and utterly without mercy. keing to bat all day on Tuesday bkep Ashes hopes alive, England in made it to lunch for the soliby loss of Mark Ramprakash. Alas But with the second new ball trailey steered a wide delivery to Ander year an England batsman | they got to 391 — Justin Langer, Brone to the crease and not sur- with an unbenten 179, defied an ad-

Darren Gough. Alan Mulfally, were always under the cosh, ho finally got off the mark in the

and to squeeze his first delivery ing Australia to bat first in furnace which comes in part from our per- serves - not to mention their youth more time to finalise their arrangeware to the offside, and suc- heat, on a first-day pitch devoid of formances in the last decade. We team — to register a thoroughly ments. The Argentine Grand Prix reded only in offering a catch to pace or bounce, with the prospect of seem to be able to get those extra deserved 3-1 victory over Panathinth slip. Eleven times now this deterioration over the match. Once 150 runs from somewhere."

likes of Floyd Reifer, Clayton Lan- A series win for South Africa will

bert and Philo Wallace might not | do little to lucrease the prestige of

have played for their respective the home side, but may convince crit-

But the collapses are a symptom

"I think that Nasser Hussain and 15 to be made about England | against us as well as any Englishlapses. It is beyond that now, men in the last 10 years or so. But | England 227 and 237. Training the toss was, as Taylor I those wickets at the end are a Australia won by 205 runs

Stewart looked devastated after

the match, his voice wavering as he mirable bowling effort - England | faced the post-match grilling. He is a proud man and wore his England cap rather than a sponsors baseball hat. But he now knows his hopes of Ashes success were little more than pipe dreams. "Australia has learned how to win," he said, "If the going gets tough, they know how to hang in and come out the other side."

Australia 391 and 278 for 5 dec:

Second Test: South Africa v West Indies

### Windies are blown away again

44 Capostagno | of of Elizabeth

> EST INDIAN cricket is in dis- Island; now they are Test players ics world-wide that the West Indies array. After the 178-run defeat | because there is no one else. with Africa in Port Elizabeth "Mg-room doors for more than

rest had been lost same inevitable outcome. luside three days. Their captain alte had a few things to say to whole team with only Curtly ♥J 10852 | 105e and Courtney Walsh esthe tongue-lashing.

a sically a call to arms, with " Test matches are Propace attack, said: "This was Raceful a performance by a 'llam as I have ever seen."

leam is not doing that."

Scores: South Africa 245 and 195. shouldy change bowlers, the same | West Indies 121 and 141. South shocking ground fielders and the Africa won by 178 runs to take a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

now belong in the second division.

Lara must soldier on with the

same inadequate openers, the same

Aston Villa 3, Arsenal 2; Blackburn 0, Newcestle 0; Derby 2, Cheisea 2; Everton 1, Southampton 0: Leads 2, Coventry 0; Leicester 3, Nollm Forest 1; Middlesbrough 1, West Ham 0; Sheff Wed 3, Charlton 0;

Leading positions: 1, Aston Villa (played 17 points 33); 2, Man Utd (18-30); 3, Leeds (17-29)

Hudderafield 0, WBA 3; Ipswich 0, Barnsley 2; Oxford 1, Birminghem 7; Portemouth 0, Ortmsby 1; OPR 0, Crewe 1; Sunderland 2, Port Vale 0; Swindon 1, Bradford C 4; Tranmere 1, Bolton 1; Watford 4, Stockport 2; Wolves 2, Norwich 2. Leading positions: 1, Sunderland (22-49); 2. Ipswich (23-42); 3, Walford (23-40).

Colchester 0; Macclesfield 2, Luton 2; Man C 0, Bristol Pivrs 0; Millwall 1, Reading 1; Northampton 1, Chesterfield 0; Notts Co 2, Leading positions; 1, Stoke (21-44);

\* seventies and eighties the Brighton 4, Rothsman 1; Cambridge 1,

Plymouth 0; Carlisle 2, Hartlepool 1; Chester 1 Darlington 0; Exeter 0, Brentford 1; L Orient 1, Peterborough 2; Manafield 1, Shrewsbury 0; Scarborough 1, Halifax 0; Scunthorps 0.

Aberdeen 2, Hearts 0; Duniermilne 1 Motherweil 1; Dundee U 1, Cettic 1; Rangers 1 Klimamock 0; St Johnstone 1, Dundee 1. Leading positions: 1, Pangers (17-34); 2, Kilmarnock (18-31); 3, Celtic (18-27).

2, Falkirk (19-35); 3, Ayr (19-33).

Second Division

East Pile 0, Clyde 0, Forlar 1, Llyingsion 2 Queen Sih O, Partick O; Stiring A O, Arbrosth Leading positions: 1, Livingston (18-43); 2, Inverness CT (17-38); 3, Ctycle (18-30).

Third Division Albion 0, Dumbarton 2; E Stirling 2, Rosa County 2: Montrosa 1, Cowdenbeath 1; Queens Pk 1, Berwick 1 Leading positioner 1; Ross County (18-40); 2. Brechin (17-33); 3, Stenhousemuir (17-80).

Sports Diary Shiv Sharma

## United's lucky draw

securing a 1-1 draw against Bayern to be around \$2 million a year.

Munich at Old Trafford.

In a strong first-half performance by the home side, Roy Keane put United in front shortly before the break by drilling home a powerful 20-yard shot from a fine Ryan Giggs

The Germans roared back into game in the second period and equalised just before the hour when their Bosnian star, Hasan Sallhamidzic, scrambled home from a cor-

The draw kept Bayern top of Group D to qualify automatically. I also enabled Alex Ferguson's team o move into the last eight as one of

nikos in Athens.

United and Chelsea, in the Cup Winners' Cup, are now the only two ture of Liverpool and Rangers from | Argentina in France 98 captivated

A beautifully crafted and wellmerited goal from Celta Vigo's Michael Revivo was enough to end Liverpool's hopes as they lost 1-4 on aggregate at Anfield. Collecting a marvellous cross-field pass from Claude Makelele, Revivo waltzed past two defenders before steering the ball home low and hard.

A fine Michael Owen strike was palmed away as the visitors, enjoying a 3-1 advantage from the first leg, kept out Liverpool to go through to the quarter-finals, Rangers saw their European

dreams end after suffering a dreadful second-half against Parma in Italy, going down 3-1 on the day and 42 on aggregate. Things started well enough for

the Scottish club when Jorg Aldertz drove the ball into the corner from | Personality . . . Michael Owen outside the area in the 29th minute. Stefano Fikore left goalkeeper Antti | the team award. Neimi grounded, and to complete Rangers' misery their captain, Lorenzo Amoruso, bizarrely han- i

EWCASTLE UNITED chairton also quit, saying they could not continue in the wake of the pair's return. Shepherd and Hall stood down last March after revelations about their disparaging comments about the club's fans and the local women. Chief executive Freddie Fletcher has taken over as acting chairman.

∧ RSENE WENGER ended specusenal by signing a new three-and-a- opponents in 218 bouts.

ANCHESTER UNITED half year contract. It was, he said, a reached the quarter-finals of straightforward decision despite the European Champions League several tempting offers to move for the third successive season after abroad. His new salary is believed

> defeated the United States to clinch the President's Cup in Mel bourne for the first time. They wor four and halved four of the 12 singles matches to win by 20% points

t was the heaviest defeat suf fered in the competition by the Americans, who won the first two cups in 1994 and 1996.

HINA'S first Formula One Grand Prix, scheduled for March 28, has been dropped from and playing the final match in governing body. It decided that the and slip. Graeme Hick came, admitted, a huge advantage, allow- bonus. We have a mental edge Group E, dug deep into their re- organisers of the Zuahi circuit need

> British teams left to battle it out for | VI teenage sensation whose European glory following the depart superb goal for England against the world, has been voted BBC



On half-time, Rangers' Italian de- | Sports Personality of the Year. fender Sergio Porrini was sent off | Denise Lewis, the European and for a second yellow card offence. Commonwealth heptathlon gold Moments after the break sloppy | medallist, was runner-up, with andefending allowed Abel Balbo to other athlete, Iwan Thomas, third. equalise. A thunderous shot from | Double winners Arsenal scooped

A USTRALIAN cricket suffered Tone of its greatest humiliations which was duly converted by Enrico | over the involvement of two of its folk heroes, Shane Warne and Mark Waugh, in the international betting scandal. After four years of secrecy, and persistent denials, the Aus-V man Denis Cassidy resigned | tralian Cricket Board finally admitafter Freddy Shepherd and Douglas | ted that the two players had been Hall forced their way back on to the | fined A\$2,500 for accepting money club's plc board. Non-executive from an Indian bookmaker for prodirectors John Josephs and Tom Fen- viding information during Ausbralia's tour of Sri Lanka in 1994.

A RCHIE MOORE, the lightheavyweight from the United States who knocked out more opponents than anyone else in the history of boxing, died in San Diego. He was 84. Moore did not retire until 49, having held the light-heavyweight title for 11 of the 27 years he Hation about his future at Ar- was in the ring, knocking out 131

### Quick crossword no. 449

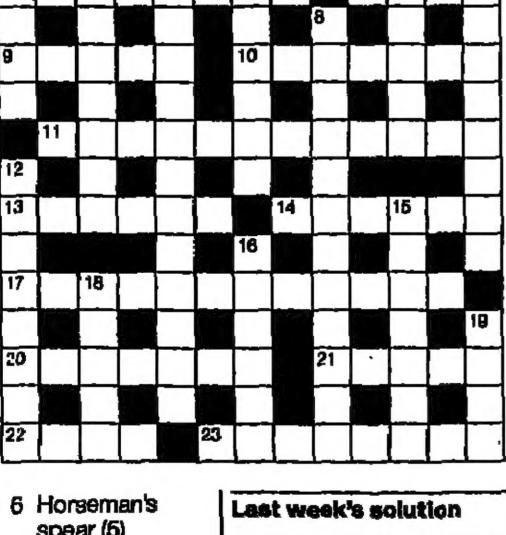
- 1 Praise honour
- 6 Mark showing musical pitch (4 9 Excellence (5) 10 Suffering as an expression of penitence (7)
- 11 Goes ahead 13 River in Vienna (6) 17 Craft taking
- holidaymakers on short trips 20 Affect deeply (7 21 Change (5)

22 Of no effect (4)

23 Tenderloin of

### beef (8)

- 1 Host fighting people (4)
- 2 Convinced some (7) 3 Receptacle for rubbish (6,6) 4 Second-Incommand (6)
- 7 Wicked very difficult (8) 8 Spineless (12) 12 Taking on (8) 15 Stretchy (7) 16 Gaol (6) 18 Throw out (5) 19 Courage (4)



CABARET SAAS RELEAENLARGE

OVATION E R N S I L APPOINT S C R E W N T V R TOPKNOT ANNU DAMEN OF LEU

K D L DIGRESS

### Bridge Zia Mahmood

the country's top eight teams. The opening lead against a slam: squad captained by John Collings was leading the event with three matches to go, but on the morning of the final weekend's play, Paul Bowver from the Collings team had to be taken to hospital with a suspected heart attack. Happily, this has been:

plete his programme of matches. this was that the team captained by simple expedient of not playing on the final day! They were, of course, scheduled to play the Collings team, but had to sit and wait nervously to spades. This allowed declarer to

take them in the final round. Though John Armstrong's team tried valiantly, it fell short in the end, so the Hacketts and Forrester had won Britain's premier competition yet again — a remarkable

Paul is now fully recovered — but it | South West meant that Collings could not com- 1 + The somewhat bizarre upshot of 6 4

see if any of their rivals could over-

THERE was an unfortunate finish tween Collings and Price had a deci-I to the 1998 British Premier | sive effect on the outcome, Take the League, the competition involving | West cards and decide on your

> ◆AJ984 ♥A3 ◆1092 ♣J103 You may be pleased to find your- ▼ A 3 self holding two aces in these cir- | ◆ 1092

this was that the team captained by David Mossop, containing Paul Hackett, his twin sons Jason and Justin, Tony Forrester, and Tom Townsend, won the League by the Townsend, while League by the IMPs or so riding on your decision. all of dummy's spades will disapted accepting responsibility, At the table, the former New | pear. Zealand international led the ace of

> make 12 tricks in some comfort. fared better, do you think? This was. the full deal: (see next column) As you can see, the ace of spades

cumstances, of course! The bidding | • J 10 3 ♣A9872

North

West can ruff the fourth dis lara made the point that this Vest can ruff the lourus spades. This allowed declarer to make 12 tricks in some comfort.

West can ruff the lourus mond, but will now be endplayed in a spade lead can run to the king, by eighties their predecessors that will now be endplayed in a spade lead can run to the king, by eighties their predecessors that will now be endplayed in a spade in and you ruff your other spade in a dummy with a but will now be endplayed in a spade in a spade lead can run to the king, by eighties their predecessors that will now be endplayed in a spade lead can run to the king, by eighties their predecessors will be a heart lead estable to be a s

FA CARLING PREMJERSHIP

Totlenhem 2, Man Utd 2; Wimbledon 1 West Indies' original four- Liverpool O.

biggest problem is that Who would have thought hold the best problem is that the best will be best problem. The squad established declarer's king for his 12th trick, while the ace of hearts would have established both of that your only trick would be in de that your only trick would be in de

Football results

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE First Division Brisiol City 1, C Palace 1; Bury 3, Sheff Utd 3;

Blackpool 0, Wycombe 0; Bournemouth 2, York 1; Fulham 4, Burnley 0; Lincoln 0, Preston 3; Oldham 0, Wafaall 2; Stoke 0, Gillinghern O; Wigan 1; Wrexham 1.

.2, Fulham (20-42); 3, Walsali (21-42).

Cardiff 2; Southend 2, Barnet 3; Swansea 1, Rochdale 1; Torquey 2, Hull 0. Leading positions: 1, Cardiff (21-40); 2,

SCOTTISH LEAGUE First Division Ayr O, Reith 2; Clydebank 2, Stransaer 1, Hamilton O. Morton O: Hibernian 2, Falkirk 1; St Mirren 1, Airdrie 5. -Leading positions: 1. Hibernian (19-41):